THE

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

The Hon. DANIEL S. LAMONT, Secretary of War,

BY

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Board of Publication.

SERIES I—VOLUME XLI—IN FOUR PARTS.

PART I—REPORTS.

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PREFACE.

The work of preparing the records of the war for public use was begun under the resolution of Congress of May 19, 1864, by Adjt. Gen. E. D. Townsend, U. S. Army, who caused copies to be made of reports of battles on file in his office and steps to be taken to collect missing records.

Under the provisions of joint resolution No. 91, of 1866, Hon. Peter H. Watson was appointed to supervise the preparation and formulate a plan for the publication of the records, but he did no work and drew no pay under this appointment, which expired July 27, 1868, by limitation of the resolution. This resolution also repealed the former one and work ceased.

The first decisive step taken in this work was the act of June 23, 1874, providing the necessary means "to enable the Secretary of War to begin the publication of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, both of the Union and Confederate Armies," and directing him "to have copied for the Public Printer all reports, letters, telegrams, and general orders, not heretofore copied or printed, and properly arranged in chronological order." Appropriations have been made from time to time for continuing such preparation. Under this act the preliminary work was resumed by General Townsend, who first outlined the plan on which the records are printed, though it appears that originally he contemplated publishing to the world only the more important military reports.

Subsequently, under meager appropriations, it was prosecuted in a somewhat desultory manner by various subordinates of the War Department until December 14, 1877, when the Secretary of War, perceiving that the undertaking needed the undivided attention of a single head, detailed Lieut. Col. Robert N. Scott, U. S. Army, to take charge of the bureau and devote himself exclusively to the work.

The act of June 23, 1874, greatly enlarged upon the first crude scheme of publication. On this more comprehensive basis it was determined that the volumes should include not only the battle reports, but also "all official documents that can be obtained by the compiler, and that appear to be of any historical value." Colonel Scott systematized the work and the plan and presented the records

in the following order of arrangement, which has been adhered to by his successors:

The first series will embrace the formal reports, both Union and Confederate, of the first seizures of United States property in the Southern States, and of all military operations in the field, with the correspondence, orders, and returns relating specially thereto, and, as proposed, is to be accompanied by an Atlas.

In this series the reports will be arranged according to the campaigns and several theaters of operations (in the chronological order of the events), and the Union reports of any event will, as a rule, be immediately followed by the Confederate accounts. The correspondence, &c., not embraced in the "reports" proper will follow (first Union and next Confederate) in chronological order.

The second series will contain the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns, Union and Confederate, relating to prisoners of war, and (so far as the military authorities were concerned) to State or political prisoners.

The third series will contain the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Union authorities (embracing their correspondence with the Confederate officials) not relating specially to the subjects of the first and second series. It will set forth the annual and special reports of the Secretary of War, of the General-in-Chief, and of the chiefs of the several staff corps and departments; the calls for troops, and the correspondence between the National and the several State authorities.

The fourth series will exhibit the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Confederate authorities, similar to that indicated for the Union officials, as of the third series, but excluding the correspondence between the Union and Confederate authorities given in that series.

The first volume of the records was issued in the early fall of 1880. The act approved June 16, 1880, provided "for the printing and binding, under direction of the Secretary of War, of 10,000 copies of a compilation of the Official Records (Union and Confederate) of the War of the Rebellion, so far as the same may be ready for publication, during the fiscal year;" and that "of said number 7,000 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, 2,000 copies for the use of the Senate, and 1,000 copies for the use of the Executive Departments." Under this act Colonel Scott proceeded to publish the first five volumes of the records.*

* All subsequent volumes have been distributed under the act approved August 7, 1882, which provides that:

"The volumes of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion shall be distributed as follows: One thousand copies to the Executive Departments, as now provided by law. One thousand copies for distribution by the Secretary of War among officers of the Army and contributors to the work. Eight thousand three hundred copies shall be sent by the Secretary of War to such libraries, organizations, and individuals as may be designated by the Senators, Representatives, and Delegates of the Forty-seventh Congress. Each Senator shall designate not exceeding twenty-six, and each Representative and Delegate not exceeding twenty-one, of such addresses, and the volumes shall be sent thereto from time to time as they are published, until the publication is completed. Senators, Representatives, and Delegates shall inform the Secretary of War in each case how many volumes of those heretofore published they have forwarded to such addresses. The remaining copies of the eleven thousand to be published, and all sets that may not be ordered to be distributed as provided herein, shall be sold by the Secretary of War for cost of publication with ten per cent. added thereto, and the proceeds of such sale shall be

Col. Robert N. Scott died March 5, 1887, before the completion of the work, which, during a ten years' service, he had come to love so dearly. At his death some twenty-six books only had been issued, but he had compiled a large amount of matter for forthcoming volumes; consequently his name as compiler was retained in all the books up to and including Vol. XXXVI, although his successors had added largely to his compilations from new material found after his demise.

The Secretary of War, May 7, 1887, assigned Lieut. Col. H. M. Lazelle, U. S. Army, to duty as the successor of Colonel Scott. He had continued in charge about two years, when, in the act approved March 2, 1889, it was provided—

That hereafter the preparation and publication of said records shall be conducted, under the Secretary of War, by a board of three persons, one of whom shall be an officer of the Army, and two civilian experts, to be appointed by the Secretary of War, the compensation of said civilian experts to be fixed by the Secretary of War.

The Secretary of War appointed Maj. George B. Davis, judge advocate, U. S. Army, as the military member, and Leslie J. Perry, of Kansas, and Joseph W. Kirkley, of Maryland, as the civilian expert members of said board. The board assumed direction of the publication at the commencement of the fiscal year 1889, its first work beginning with Serial No. 36 of Vol. XXIV.

Each volume includes a copious and accurate index, and for the further convenience of investigators there will be, in addition, a general index to the entire set when complete in a volume by itself.

Nothing is printed in these volumes except duly authenticated contemporaneous records of the war. The scope of the board's work is to decide upon and arrange the matter to be published; to correct and verify the orthography of the papers used, and occasionally to add a foot-note of explanation.

GEO. B. DAVIS, *Major and J. A., U. S. A.*,
LESLIE J. PERRY, *Civilian Expert*,
JOSEPH W. KIRKLEY, *Civilian Expert*,
Board of Publication.

Approved:

REDFIELD PROCTOR,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., August 1, 1891.

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covered into the Treasury. If two or more sets of said volumes are ordered to the same address, the Secretary of War shall inform the Senators, Representatives, or Delegates who have designated the same, who thereupon may designate other libraries, organizations, or individuals. The Secretary of War shall report to the first session of the Forty-eighth Congress what volumes of the series heretofore published have not been furnished to such libraries, organizations, and individuals. He shall also inform distributees at whose instance the volumes are sent."

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1864.

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CHAPTER LIII.

OPERATIONS IN LOUISIANA AND THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI STATES AND TERRITORIES.*

July 1–December 31, 1864.

PART I.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.†

July 1, 1864.—Skirmish near Fayette, Mo.
1-31, 1864.—Operations in Arkansas.
1-Oct. 1, 1864.—Operations against Indians in the District of Minnesota.
3, 1864.—Skirmish in Platte County, Mo.
3-25, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Baton Rouge, La., with skirmish near Benton's Ferry, on the Amite River (25th).
4, 1864.—Skirmish in Clay County, Mo.
Skirmish at Cross Bayou, La.
5-6, 1864.—Scouts from Big Piney, Mo.
5-7, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to Simsport, La.
5-10, 1864.—Expedition from New Madrid to Caruthersville, Mo., with skirmishes.
6-24, 1864.—Scout in Southeastern Arizona.
6-30, 1864.—Operations in Western Missouri.
8, 1864.—Skirmish near Richmond, Mo.
8-12, 1864.—Scout from Patterson to Buffalo Creek, in Ripley County, Mo.
9-13, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Wellington, Mo., with skirmishes at Warder's Church (10th), and at Columbus, Johnson County (12th).

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*Including Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Indian Territory, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Texas, and the Department of the Northwest, embracing Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

†Of some of the minor conflicts noted in this Summary no circumstantial reports are on file.

July 13, 1864.—Skirmish near Brownsville, Ark.
Reconnaissance from Pine Bluff, Ark.
13–16, 1864.—Expedition from Helena, Ark., to Buck Island, in the Mississippi River.
14, 1864.—Skirmish near Bloomfield, Mo.
15, 1864.—Affair at Lindley, Grundy County, Mo.
17–18, 1864.—Expedition from Baton Rouge to Davison's Ford, near Clinton, La.
17–28, 1864.—Scout on the South Platte River, Colo. Ter.
18–21, 1864.—Scout in Shannon County, Mo.
18–23, 1864.—Operations in Southwest Missouri, with skirmishes near Maysville, Ark. (20th), and near Carthage, Mo. (21st).
18–Aug. 6, 1864.—Operations in Southeast Missouri and Northeastern Arkansas, with skirmishes at Scatterville, Ark. (July 28), at Osceola, Ark. (August 2), and at Elk Chute, Mo. (August 4).
18–Aug. 7, 1864.—Expedition to the Pinal Mountains, Ariz. Ter.
19, 1864.—Skirmish on the Benton road, near Little Rock, Ark.
Attack on Webster, Washington County, Mo.
19–25, 1864.—Operations on the White River, Ark., and attack (24th) on the steamer Clara Bell.
20–31, 1864.—Operations in La Fayette and Johnson Counties, Mo., with skirmishes.
21, 1864.—Skirmish at Atchafalaya, La.
22, 1864.—Skirmish near Vidalia, La.
Skirmish at Concordia, La.
Skirmish in Wright County, Mo.
22–Aug. 22, 1864.—Attempt to transfer Confederate troops to the east bank of the Mississippi River.
23–24, 1864.—Operations in Randolph County, Mo., with skirmishes at Allen (23d), and at Huntsville (24th).
23–Oct. 10, 1864.—Expedition to Southwestern New Mexico.
25, 1864.—Skirmish at Pleasant Hill, Mo.
25–26, 1864.—Scout from Fulton, Mo.
25–Aug. 11, 1864.—Scout in Yell County, Ark., with skirmishes.
25–Oct. 8, 1864.—Expedition against Sioux Indians in Dakota Territory.
26, 1864.—Attack on Shelbina, Mo.
26–28, 1864.—Scout to Searcy and West Point, Ark.
26–31, 1864.—Scout in Johnson County, Mo.
27–28, 1864.—Skirmishes on the Blackwater River (27th), and on Big Creek, Mo. (28th).
27–30, 1864.—Scout in Chariton County, Mo., with skirmishes (30th) on the Chariton road, near Keytesville, and at Union Church.
28, 1864.—Skirmish on the Morgan's Ferry road, near Morganza, La.
29, 1864.—Affair at Highland Stockade, near Baton Rouge, La.
Skirmishes near Napoleonville, La.
29–Aug. 2, 1864.—Expedition from Warrensburg to Chapel Hill, Mo., with skirmish (July 30) near Chapel Hill.
30, 1864.—Skirmish at Bayou Tensas, La.
Skirmish at Hay Station No. 3, near Brownsville, Ark.
Skirmish near Pine Bluff, Ark.
Reoccupation of Brownsville, Tex., by the Confederate Forces.
30–Aug. 1, 1864.—Scout in Phelps and Maries Counties, Mo.
31, 1864.—Affair at Orange Grove, near Donaldsonville, La.

Aug. 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Rolla, Mo.
Skirmishes near Independence, Mo.
Scout to Baxter Springs, Kans., with skirmish.
1- 3, 1864.—Scout on the Independence road to Gunter's Mills, Mo.
1- 5, 1864.—Scout on the Smoky Hill Fork, Kans.
Operations in Eastern Arkansas, with skirmish (1st) at Lamb's Plantation, near Helena.
1-28, 1864.—Operations in Southwest Missouri, with skirmishes at Diamond Grove Prairie (1st), at Rutledge (4th), near Enterprise and on Buffalo Creek (7th).
2, 1864.—Reconnaissance from Berwick to Pattersonville, La.
2- 8, 1864.—Operations near Holden, Mo., with skirmish (8th) on Norris Creek.
3, 1864.—Skirmish near Fayette, Mo.
3-Nov. 1, 1864.—Scouts from Fort Sumner, N. Mex., with skirmish (August 26) at Sacramento Mountains.
4- 6, 1864.—Expedition from Natchez, Miss., to Gillespie's Plantation, La., and skirmish.*
4-15, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Brazos Santiago, Tex., with skirmish (9th) at Point Isabel.
4-Sept. 15, 1864.—Scout from Fort Union, N. Mex.
5, 1864.—Skirmish near Remount Camp, Ark.
Skirmish at Olive Branch, La.
Affair at Doyal's Plantation, La.
Skirmish at Concordia Bayou, La.
6, 1864.—Skirmish at Plaquemine, La.
Skirmish at Indian Village, La.
6- 9, 1864.—Scout in Saline County, Mo., with skirmishes (7th) at Arrow Rock.
6-16, 1864.—Expedition from Little Rock to Little Red River, Ark., with skirmishes at Hickory Plains and Bull Bayou (7th), at Hatch's Ferry (9th), near Augusta (10th), and near Searcy (13th).
7, 1864.—Skirmish at Enterprise, Mo.
Skirmish near Huntsville, Mo.
Affair near Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.
7- 8, 1864.—Scout from Independence into La Fayette County, Mo.
8-11, 1864.—Scout from Salina to Mulberry Creek, Kans.
9-15, 1864.—Operations in Central Arkansas, with skirmishes.
10-12, 1864.—Scouts from Morganza, La., with skirmishes.
11, 1864.—Skirmish on White Oak Creek, Ark.
Skirmish in Crawford County, Ark.
Skirmish near Sand Creek, Colo. Ter.
Skirmish at Hartville, Mo.
11-13, 1864.—Expedition from Helena to Kent's Landing, Ark.
11-19, 1864.—Operations in Johnson County, Mo., with skirmish (12th) near Holden.
11-Oct. 28, 1864.—Operations against Indians in Nebraska Territory, with skirmish (September 20) near Fort Cottonwood.
12, 1864.—Skirmish at Van Buren, Ark.
Affair in the San Andres Mountains, N. Mex.
12-16, 1864.—Scout on the Fort Union road, near Fort Garland, Colo. Ter.
Operations in Ray and Carroll Counties, Mo., with skirmish (12th) at Fredericksburg.

* For report, see Vol. XXXIX, Part I, p. 459.

Aug. 13–22, 1864.—Operations in La Fayette, Saline, and Howard Counties, Mo., with skirmishes.
15, 1864.—Skirmish at Dripping Spring, Mo.
15–21, 1864.—Expedition from Paincourtville to Lake Natchez, La., with skirmish on Grand River.
15–24, 1864.—Operations in Southwest Missouri and Northwestern Arkansas, with skirmishes at Carrollton, Ark. (15th), on Richland Creek, Ark. (16th), and at Mud Town, Ark. (24th).
16, 1864.—Skirmish at Columbia, Mo.
Skirmish with Indians near Smoky Hill Crossing, Kans.
17, 1864.—Capture of the steamer Miller, on the Arkansas River, near Pine Bluff, Ark.
18, 1864.—Skirmish at Benton, Ark.
Skirmishes near Pine Bluff, Ark.
19–24, 1864.—Scout on the Republican River, Kans.
20, 1864.—Skirmish near Rocheport, Mo.
21, 1864.—Skirmish at Diamond Grove, Mo.
21–27, 1864.—Expedition in Washington and Benton Counties, Ark., with skirmishes.
22, 1864.—Skirmish in Yell County, Ark.
22–25, 1864.—Scout from Helena to Mount Vernon, Ark.
22–30, 1864.—Operations in La Fayette County, Mo.
23, 1864.—Affair at Webster, Mo.
23–26, 1864.—Scout from Ozark, Mo., to Dubuque Crossing and Sugar Loaf Prairie.
23–28, 1864.—Expedition from Cassville, Mo., to Fayetteville, Ark., with skirmish (24th) at Gerald Mountain, Ark.
23–29, 1864.—Expedition to Clinton, La., with skirmishes (25th) at Olive Branch and the Comite River.
24, 1864.—Skirmish on Gunter's Prairie, Ind. Ter.
Action at Ashley's and Jones' Stations, near Devall's Bluff, Ark.
25, 1864.—Skirmishes at Morgan's Ferry and on the Atchafalaya River, La.
25–29, 1864.—Scouts in Jackson and Cass Counties, Mo., with skirmish (26th) near Pleasant Hill.
25–30, 1864.—Scout in Platte County, Mo.
Scout to Crisp's Mill, on Big Creek, Mo., with skirmish near Rose Hill.
Operations on the Texas Prairie, in Jackson County, Mo.
26–31, 1864.—Skirmish near Bayou Tensas (26th), and expedition from Goodrich's Landing to Bayou Macon, La. (28th–31st).
27, 1864.—Skirmish at Fayetteville, Ark.
27–28, 1864.—Scout on the Arkansas River, near Pine Bluff, Ark., with skirmishes.
27–Sept. 6, 1864.—Expeditions from Little Rock and Devall's Bluff to Searcy, Fairview, and Augusta, Ark.
28, 1864.—Skirmish at Fayetteville, Ark.
Skirmish near Rocheport, Mo.
Skirmish in Polk County, Mo.
29, 1864.—Attack on steamer White Cloud, on the Mississippi River, near Port Hudson, La.
29–Sept. 3, 1864.—Expedition up White River from Helena, Ark., with affair (September 3) at Kendal's Grist-Mill, Ark.

Aug. 29–Dec. 2, 1864.—Price's Missouri Expedition.
30, 1864.—Skirmish near Dardanelle, Ark.
30–Sept. 2, 1864.—Expedition to Natchez Bayou, La., with skirmish (September 1) near Gentilly's Plantation.
31, 1864.—Affair at Steelville, Mo.
Sept. 1, 1864.—Attack on Tipton, Mo.
Skirmish at Fort Smith, Ark.
Skirmish near Beatty's Mill, Ark.
1– 9, 1864.—Operations in Johnson County, Mo., and skirmish (1st) near Lone Jack.
2, 1864.—Skirmish at the Tannery, near Little Rock, Ark.
Skirmish near Mount Vernon, Mo.
Skirmish near Quitman, Ark.
2– 4, 1864.—Expedition from Sedalia, Mo., to Scott's Ford, on the Blackwater.
2–10, 1864.—Scouts on the Little Blue River, in Jackson County, Mo.
3, 1864.—Skirmishes near Rocheport, Mo.
4, 1864.—Affair near Donaldsonville, La.
Attack on steamers Celeste and Commercial, at Gregory's Landing, on the White River, Ark.
Skirmish at Brownsville, Ark.
6, 1864.—Skirmish at Richland, Ark.
Skirmish at Searcy, Ark.
Affair near Brunswick, Mo.
Skirmish at the Palmetto Ranch, near Brazos Santiago, Tex.
6– 7, 1864.—Scout from Little Rock to Benton, Ark.
Expedition from Morganza to Bayou Sara, La.
6– 8, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Lewisburg, Ark., with skirmishes at Norristown (6th) and near Glass Village (8th).
6–12, 1864.—Scouts in Boone and Howard Counties, Mo., with skirmishes (7th and 8th) in Boone County.
7, 1864.—Affair at Centralia, Mo.
7–11, 1864.—Expeditions to Grand Lake, Grand River, Lake Fausse Pointe, Bayou Pigeon, and Lake Natchez, La., with affair (8th) at Labadieville.
8, 1864.—Skirmishes near Hornersville and Gayosa, Mo.
9, 1864.—Attack on steamer J. D. Perry, at Clarendon, Ark.
Affair on the Warrensburg road, near Warrensburg, Mo.
9–11, 1864.—Expedition from Pine Bluff toward Monticello, Ark., with skirmishes near Monticello (10th) and at Brewer's Lane (11th).
9–12, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Pike, La., to the Pearl River.
Scout from Lewisburg to Norristown and Russellville, Ark., with skirmishes.
9–14, 1864.—Scout from Helena to Alligator Bayou, Ark.
10, 1864.—Skirmish near Roanoke, Mo.
Skirmish near Pisgah, Mo.
Skirmish near Dover, Mo.
11, 1864.—Skirmish at Hodge's Plantation, La.
Skirmish near Fort Smith, Ark.
11–16, 1864.—Operations in Monroe and Ralls Counties, Mo.
11–18, 1864.—Scouts in Moniteau and Morgan Counties, Mo.
11–25, 1864.—Operations in the Cherokee Nation, Ind. Ter., with actions at Hay Station, near Fort Gibson (16th), and at Cabin Creek and Pryor's Creek, Ind. Ter. (19th).

Sept. 11–30, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Rice, Dak. Ter., to relieve Captain Fisk's emigrant train.
12, 1864.—Skirmish at Caledonia, Mo.
12–15, 1864.—Scout from Fayetteville to Huntsville, Ark., with skirmish (14th) at Rodgers' Crossing of the White River.
13, 1864.—Skirmish near Searcy, Ark.
Skirmish at Longwood, Mo.
13–17, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to Fausse River, La., with skirmishes near Bayou Maringouin (13th), near Rosedale (15th), and near Bayou Maringouin (16th).
14, 1864.—Skirmish at Bullitt's Bayou, La.
14–21, 1864.—Scout in Texas County, Mo., with skirmish (18th) at Thomasville, Mo.
15–19, 1864.—Operations in Randolph, Howard, and Boone Counties, Mo., with skirmish (16th) at Columbia.
16–25, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Morganza, La., with skirmishes at Williamsport (16th), at the Atchafalaya River (17th), and at Bayou Alabama and Morgan's Ferry (20th).
18, 1864.—Skirmish near Lexington, Mo.
18–Oct. 5, 1864.—Scout on the Cimarron River, in Northeastern New Mexico.
20–25, 1864.—Scout in La Fayette County, Mo., with skirmish (23d) on the Arrow Rock Road.
21, 1864.—Affair near Council Grove, Kans.
22, 1864.—Skirmish at Carthage, Mo.
Skirmish near Longwood, Mo.
22–28, 1864.—Scout from Helena to Alligator Bayou, Ark.
23, 1864.—Affair near Fort Smith, Ark.
Maj. Gen. Stephen A. Hurlbut, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Department of the Gulf.
25, 1864.—Skirmish at Walnut Creek, Kans.
25–Oct. 13, 1864.—Expedition from Little Rock to Fort Smith, Ark., with skirmishes at Clarksville (September 28), at White Oak Creek (September 29), and at Clarksville (October 9).
26, 1864.—Skirmish at Vache Grass, Ark.
Skirmish at Osage Mission, Kans.
26–30, 1864.—Expedition from Napoleonville to Grand River and Bayou Pigeon, La.
26–Oct. 30, 1864.—Expedition from Natchez, Miss., to Waterproof and Sicily Island, La.*
28, 1864.—Skirmish in Polk County, Mo.
29–Nov. 30, 1864.—Operations against Indians in Nebraska and Colorado.
30, 1864.—Skirmish at Waynesville, Mo.
—, 1864.—Capture of the steamer Ike Davis.
Oct. 1– 4, 1864.—Scout from Helena to Alligator Bayou, Ark.
1–31, 1864.—Operations in Arkansas.
1–Nov. 27, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Craig, N. Mex., to Fort Goodwin, Ariz. Ter.
2– 8, 1864.—Expeditions to the Amite River, New River, and Bayou Manchac, La.

* For report, see Vol. XXXIX, Part I, p. 572.

Oct. 3- 6, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to Bayou Sara, La., and skirmishes.
5, 1864.—Skirmish at Atchafalaya, La.
Skirmish at Saint Charles, La.
5- 9, 1864.—Expedition from Baton Rouge, La., to Clinton, Greensburg, Osyka, and Camp Moore, La.
6, 1864.—Skirmish in Cole County, Mo.
8, 1864.—Skirmish in Barry County, Mo.
9, 1864.—Scout in Saint Francois County, Mo., with skirmishes.
10, 1864.—Skirmish near Valley Station, Colo. Ter.
10-12, 1864.—Scout in Pemiscot County, Mo.
11, 1864.—Attack on the steamer Resolute, on the White River, near Clarendon, Ark.
13-20, 1864.—Operations against Indians near Fort Belknap, Tex., with skirmish (13th) on Elm Creek, Tex.
13-21, 1864.—Scout in the Sacramento Mountains, N. Mex.
14, 1864.—Skirmish near Fort Smith, Ark.
Attack on Danville, Mo.
Skirmish at the Boca Chica Pass, Tex.
15, 1864.—Skirmish at Bayou Liddell, La.
16, 1864.—Skirmish near Morganza, La.
16-17, 1864.—Expedition from Devall's Bluff toward Clarendon, Ark.
18, 1864.—Skirmish in Barry County, Mo.
19, 1864.—Skirmish in Crawford County, Ark.
Skirmish near Montevallo, Mo.
20, 1864.—Skirmish near Waterloo, La.
22, 1864.—Attack on Union transport, on the White River, near Saint Charles, Ark.
22-24, 1864.—Expedition from Brashear City to Belle River, La.
25, 1864.—Attack on Clinton, Mo.
26-27, 1864.—Scout from Vidalia to the York Plantation, La.
29, 1864.—Skirmish near Warrenton, Mo.
29-Nov. 8, 1864.—Expedition to Quincy, Mo., with skirmishes (November 1 and 2) near Quincy.

Nov. 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Rolla, Mo.
Skirmish on the Big Piney, near Waynesville, Mo.
Skirmish near Lebanon, Mo.
Affair at Greenton, Mo.
1-30, 1864.—Operations in Central Arkansas.
Transfer of the First and Third Divisions, Sixteenth Army Corps, from Missouri to Tennessee.
2, 1864.—Affair at Hazen's Farm, near Devall's Bluff, Ark.
3, 1864.—Skirmish at Vera Cruz, Mo.
5- 6, 1864.—Operations in Mississippi County, Mo., with skirmishes at Charleston (5th) and near Sikeston (6th).
5- 9, 1864.—Expedition from Rolla to Licking, Texas County, Mo., with skirmish (9th) near Licking.
5-14, 1864.—Operations in Colorado Territory.
5-16, 1864.—Expedition from Springfield, Mo., to Fort Smith, Ark., with skirmishes (6th) near Cincinnati, Ark.
5-23, 1864.—Expedition from Lewisburg to Fort Smith, Ark., with skirmishes.
6- 7, 1864.—Scout in Callaway County, Mo.

Nov. 6- 8, 1864.—Expedition from Vicksburg, Miss., to Gaines' Landing and Bayou Macon, La.*
6-16, 1864.—Affairs at Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.
9-15, 1864.—Scout from Devall's Bluff to Searcy and Clinton, Ark.
10, 1864.—Skirmish at Neosho, Mo.
11-21, 1864.—Scout from Springfield, Mo., to Huntsville and Yellville, Ark., with skirmishes.
12, 1864.—Skirmish near Centreville, Mo.
13, 1864.—Skirmish with Indians at Ash Creek, near Fort Larned, Kans.
13-16, 1864.—Scout in Pemiscot County, Mo., with skirmish.
14, 1864.—Skirmish on Cow Creek, Kans.
15, 1864.—Skirmish at Clinton, La.
16-18, 1864.—Scout from Devall's Bluff to West Point, Ark., with skirmishes.
16-23, 1864.—Expedition from Brookfield to Brunswick, Keytesville, and Salisbury, Mo.
16-25, 1864.—Expedition from Cape Girardeau to Patterson, Wayne County, Mo., with skirmishes at Reeves' Mill (19th), and at Buckskull, Randolph County, Ark. (20th).
17-19, 1864.—Expedition from Brashear City to Bayou Portage, La., with skirmish (18th) at Lake Fausse Pointe, La.
18, 1864.—Skirmish at Fayette, Mo.
19-27, 1864.—Expedition from Terre Bonne to Bayou Grand Caillou, La., with affair (23d) at Bayou Grand Caillou.
20, 1864.—Skirmish with Indians near Fort Zarah, Kans.
21-30, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Fulton, Mo., with skirmish (28th) near Fulton.
22-24, 1864.—Scout from Devall's Bluff to Augusta, Ark.
23, 1864.—Skirmishes at Morganza, La.
23-Dec. 10, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Wingate against Indians in New Mexico, with skirmish (December 1) on the Red River.
24, 1864.—Skirmish at Saint Charles, Ark.
25, 1864.—Affair at Raccourci, near Williamsport, La.
Engagement with Indians at Adobe Fort, on the Canadian River, N. Mex.
26, 1864.—Skirmish at Osage, Mo.
27-30, 1864.—Scout from Little Rock to Benton, Ark.
28, 1864.—The Department of Mississippi created, and Maj. Gen. Napoleon J. T. Dana, U. S. Army, assigned to its command.
Skirmish on Cow Creek, Kans.
29, 1864.—Skirmish at Doyal's Plantation, La.
Attack on the steamer Alamo, on the Arkansas River, near Dardanelle, Ark.
Engagement with Indians on Sand Creek, Colo. Ter.
29-Dec. 3, 1864.—Scout from Warrensburg to the Greenton Valley, Mo.
Dec. 1, 1864.—Skirmish near Cypress Creek, Perry County, Ark.
1- 3, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Waynesville, Mo., with skirmish (2d) on the Big Piney.
1- 5, 1864.—Expedition from Helena, Ark., to Friar's Point, Miss.

* For report, see Vol. XXXIX, Part I, p. 899.

Dec. 1-31, 1864.—Operations in Central Arkansas.
Operations against Indians in Nebraska, with skirmish (8th) near Plum Creek.
2, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Grenville M. Dodge, U. S. Army, appointed to the command of the Department of the Missouri, vice Rosecrans, relieved.
3, 1864.—Skirmish in Perry County, Ark.
Skirmish near New Madrid, Mo.
4, 1864.—Skirmish on the New Texas road, near Morganza, La.
Skirmish with Indians on Cow Creek, near Fort Zarah, Kans.
5, 1864.—Skirmish near Lewisburg, Ark.
6, 1864.—Skirmish at Lewisburg, Ark.
7, 1864.—Affair at Moselle Bridge, near Franklin, Mo.
7-8, 1864.—Expedition from Devall's Bluff to Augusta, Ark.
8, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Napoleon J. T. Dana, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Department of Mississippi.
Affair at Tuscumbia, Mo.
9, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Grenville M. Dodge, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Department of the Missouri.
10-23, 1864.—Expedition against Indians in Central Arizona, with skirmish (15th) on Hassayampa Creek.
12, 1864.—Skirmish on the Amite River, La.
13, 1864.—Affair near Devall's Bluff, Ark.
13-14, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to and beyond Morgan's Ferry, La.
13-15, 1864.—Expedition up the White River from Devall's Bluff, Ark.
14, 1864.—Skirmish in the Cypress Swamp, near Cape Girardeau, Mo.
14, 1864-Jan. 5, 1865.—Operations in the vicinity of Hermitage Plantation, near Morganza, La.
16-19, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to the Atchafalaya River, La.
18, 1864.—Skirmish on Little River, in New Madrid County, Mo.
19, 1864.—Skirmish at Rector's Farm, Ark.
20, 1864-Jan. 4, 1865.—Expeditions from Cape Girardeau and Dallas, Mo., to Cherokee Bay, Ark., and the Saint Francis River, with skirmishes.
21, 1864-Jan. 5, 1865.—Expedition from Memphis, Tenn., to destroy the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and engagements at Verona, Miss. (25th), and at Egypt, Miss. (28th).
22, 1864.—Skirmish on Franklin Creek, Miss.
Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Reynolds, U. S. Army, supersedes Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele in command of the Department of Arkansas.
23-24, 1864.—Expedition from Baton Rouge to Clinton, La.
24, 1864.—Skirmish near Fort Smith, Ark.
24-25, 1864.—Scout from Pine Bluff to Richland, Ark., with skirmish (24th) near Richland.
26, 1864-Jan. 1, 1865.—Expedition against Indians in Central Arizona, with skirmish (January 1) at Sycamore Springs, Ariz. Ter.
30, 1864.—Skirmish near Caruthersville, Mo.

JULY 1, 1864.—Skirmish near Fayette, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

No. 2.—Maj. Reeves Leonard, Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

SAINT JOSEPH, MO., *July 2, 1864.*

COLONEL: A small detachment of the Ninth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, under Sergeant Koontze, fought Holtzclaw and his guerrillas yesterday morning six miles from Fayette, in Howard County. Two of the guerrillas were killed and one wounded. Our loss one killed and one wounded. The guerrillas outnumbered our boys two to one. Holtzclaw and his party were at breakfast at the residence of one Henry Miller, where they had been for several hours, but not one of the citizens of that loyal neighborhood reported the presence of the guerrillas to Major Leonard, who was in less than an hour's ride, with force sufficient to have destroyed the entire band.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Reeves Leonard, Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACH. NINTH CAV., MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Fayette, Mo., July 2, 1864.

GENERAL: Sergeant Koontze, of this command, with fifteen men, had a skirmish yesterday, six miles from Fayette, with Holtzclaw and twenty-five other guerrillas. Our loss one killed and one wounded. Holtzclaw's loss two killed and one wounded. The guerrillas scattered; they were getting their breakfast at the house of one Henry Miller; had been there all morning; no one reported the presence of these guerrillas, although there was ample opportunity. Colonel Williams is here; he reports 150 guerrillas in the Perche Hills, and I suppose he will start for there forthwith.

R. LEONARD,
Major Ninth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK,
Saint Joseph, Mo.

JULY 1–31, 1864.—Operations in Arkansas.*

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

July 4, 1864.—Skirmish in Searcy County.
6, 1864.—Skirmish near Benton.
7, 1864.—Skirmish at Van Buren.
8, 1864.—Skirmish near Huntersville.
10, 1864.—Skirmish near Little Rock.
Skirmish near Petit Jean.
14, 1864.—Action at Bayou Des Arc.
22, 1864.—Skirmish near Pine Bluff.
25, 1864.—Affair at Benton.
26, 1864.—Action at Wallace's Ferry, Big Creek.
27, 1864.—Action at Massard Prairie, near Fort Smith.
31, 1864.—Action near Fort Smith.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding the Department of Arkansas.
No. 2.—Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).
No. 3.—Maj. Thaddeus S. Clarkson, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).
No. 4.—Col. James Stuart, Tenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 5.—Capt. David H. Wilson, Tenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 6.—Brig. Gen. Napoleon B. Buford, U. S. Army, commanding District of Eastern Arkansas.
No. 7.—Lieut. Col. Moses Reed, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops.
No. 8.—Maj. Eagleton Carmichael, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 9.—Lieut. Harmon T. Chappel, Battery E, Second U. S. Colored Light Artillery.
No. 10.—Brig. Gen. John M. Thayer, U. S. Army, commanding District of the Frontier.
No. 11.—Lieut. Jacob Morehead, Sixth Kansas Cavalry.
No. 12.—Lieut. Levi F. Stewart, Sixth Kansas Cavalry.
No. 13.—Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army.
No. 14.—Maj. Gen. Samuel B. Maxey, C. S. Army.
No. 15.—Brig. Gen. Douglas H. Cooper, C. S. Army.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding the Department of Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, ETC.,
Little Rock, Ark., August 15, 1864.

Record of military operations in the Department of Arkansas for the month of July, 1864:

4th, a party of fifty-five men, of the Third Arkansas Cavalry Volunteers, from Lewisburg, under command of Captain Hamilton, of that

* See also skirmish near Brownsville, July 13, p. 68; reconnaissance from Pine Bluff, July 13, p. 68; expedition from Helena to Buck Island, July 13–16, p. 69; skirmish on the Benton road, near Little Rock, July 19, p. 87; operations on the White River, July 19–25, p. 87; scout in Yell County, July 25–August 11, p. 131; scout to Searcy and West Point, July 26–28, p. 174; skirmish at Hay Station No. 3, July 30, p. 183; and skirmish near Pine Bluff, July 30, p. 183.

regiment, made a raid into Searcy, Ark., and killed 7 rebels, wounded 4, and captured 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 53 men, who were organized for General Shelby's command. They also captured 12 horses and mules, 15 stand of arms, and 1 stand of colors.

6th, Lieutenant Mason, Third Arkansas Cavalry, returned to Lewisburg from a scout to Norristown, having captured 3 deserters and destroyed 5 flats and skiffs.

10th, a scouting party, consisting of one lieutenant and twenty men of the Tenth Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, ran into a small party of Confederates about twenty miles north of Little Rock, killing and wounding 4 and taking 1 prisoner.

11th, Lieutenant Treadway, Third Arkansas Cavalry, returned to Lewisburg from scout to near Devil's Fork, having killed rebel Captain Christopher and 1 man.

12th, Captain Gill, Third Arkansas Cavalry Volunteers, returned to Lewisburg, having had a fight with Captain Adams' company on the Arkansas River near Petit Jean [10th], in which he killed 2 and wounded several of the enemy.

14th, a battalion of the Fourth Arkansas Cavalry returned from scout through Saline, Hot Springs, and Montgomery Counties. Fought with small bands of the enemy daily until arriving at Farr's Mill. Captain Green, with twenty-five men of this battalion, engaged Cook's and Crawford's companies, numbering about 100 men, drove them and killed 4 and wounded 6 of the enemy, without a single accident happening to his men. The battalion lost, during the expedition, 1 private killed, Captain Quin and Lieutenant Spiva and 6 privates wounded, and 3 men missing.

17th, Lieutenant Williams, Third Arkansas Cavalry, returned to Lewisburg from scout to Norristown, Dover, &c., having killed 3 bushwhackers and 2 horses on the Arkansas River below Norristown.

22d, Captain Taylor, Third Arkansas Cavalry, returned to Lewisburg, from scout to Red River, having killed 4 of the enemy. Maj. L. K. Thacher, Ninth Kansas Cavalry, while on a scout fifteen miles northwest of Pine Bluff, surprised the camp of Captain Lightfoot, of Cabell's command, wounding 1 man, capturing 2 horses, 3 guns, and a large amount of provisions and medical stores, which he destroyed.

24th, Lieutenant Reynolds, Third Arkansas Cavalry Volunteers, returned to Lewisburg from scout eight miles beyond Camp Myrick, having killed 10 of Jackman's and Shelby's men and bringing in 3 prisoners.

25th, a scouting party from the Third Missouri Cavalry, under command of Captain Ing, proceeded to Benton, Ark., and charging into the town Private George W. Lucas, Company C, Third Missouri Cavalry, pursued and killed the rebel Brig. Gen. George M. Holt, Arkansas militia, capturing his arms and horse.

25th, a reconnoitering party, consisting of 360 men of the Fifty-sixth and Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry and one section of Lembke's colored battery, the whole under command of Col. W. S. Brooks, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, moved from Helena in the direction of Wallace's Ferry, on Big Creek, with the view of ascertaining the designs and force of the enemy. At the same time 150 men of the Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, under command of Major Carmichael, dropped down the Mississippi River on board a steamer, and landing at a point below Old Town, marched in the direction of Simms' Ferry, on

Big Creek, to co-operate with Colonel Brooks. The infantry and artillery crossed Big Creek at 5 a. m. on the 26th, and learned that the rebel General Dobbin was near there in force, having three regiments, estimated at 1,500 men. Colonel Brooks recrossed his command, Dobbin crossing lower down and before him and attacked him in front and on the right flank with vigor. The infantry and artillery held their ground stubbornly for several hours, when Major Carmichael, hearing the cannonading, made a forced march and charged through Dobbin's command just at the moment when he had brought up his reserve and was about to make a final charge. Our forces immediately assumed the offensive and marched in the direction of Helena, the enemy giving way before them, but following them up within nine miles of that place. Our loss was about 50 in killed and wounded, including Colonel Brooks,* Captain Lembke,† Adjutant Pratt,‡ and Surgeon Stoddard,* of the Fifty-sixth Colored, killed, and Lieutenant Crane* severely wounded; 1 caisson and 1 limber that were blown up, their horses having been killed. The enemy's loss is estimated by officers who were in the action at about 150 men.

27th, a force of between 1,500 and 2,000 rebels, under General Gano, attacked our outposts seven miles from Fort Smith, consisting of about 200 men of the Sixth Kansas, under command of Captain Mefford, moving up in two columns, the one driving in the pickets and the other flanking them. Captain Mefford fought his men bravely, but was soon overpowered, and he and 82 of his men were taken prisoners. The enemy retired before re-enforcements could be sent. Ten of our men were killed and 15 wounded. The enemy lost 12 killed and 20 wounded, left on the field.

Major Galloway, of the First Arkansas Cavalry, routed Major Pickler's and Buck Brown's forces, killing Major Pickler and a number of his men, and capturing 35 horses and mules. Captain Worthington, of the same regiment, subsequently attacked a portion of Brown's force, killing 9 and capturing 15 horses and mules.

29th, Captain Napier, Third Arkansas Cavalry, returned from scout to Greenbrier, having killed the rebel Captain Birr near Red River.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. STEELE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

No. 2.

Reports of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

LEWISBURG, ARK., *July 13, 1864—9 p. m.*

CAPTAIN: Captain Gill has returned from scout through Perry and Yell Counties; had two fights with Conly's bushwhacking regiment. Run them, killing 5 and wounding 10, bringing in 2 prisoners and 8

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*Of the 56th U. S. Colored Infantry.
†Of Battery E, 2d U. S. Colored Light Artillery.
‡Of the 60th U. S. Colored Infantry.

horses. The men retreated on island below Dardanelle, where Conly is trying to raise an old flat-boat lying there. There is no other force of the enemy in that section. I have sent scout this evening beyond Perryville, then up the Fourche; also one to Norristown, Dover, &c. Is that infantry regiment coming? River rising.

Respectfully,

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LEWISBURG, *July* [*14*], *1864.*

CAPTAIN: Lieutenant Williams in from scout to Norristown. All quiet on this side of the river. Great complaints made against Ninth Kansas Cavalry; they robbed men and women, friend and foe, indiscriminately. Captain Gill had a fight on Sunday with Captain Adams' company on river above Petit Jean, killing two and wounding several of the enemy. He is now after a force reported eight miles back of Dardanelle. Captain Adams' wife is now in Little Rock arranging to sell and get away cotton. She [has] sold and shipped seven bales already.

Respectfully,

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, &c.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Report of Maj. Thaddeus S. Clarkson, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

LEWISBURG, *July 7, 1864—10 a. m.*

CAPTAIN: I sent out Captain Hamilton, with fifty-five men, on Saturday, the 2d, to go into Searcy County and break up a company of men organizing to join Shelby; he returned last night, having killed 7 rebels, wounded 4, and captured 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 53 men, who had organized and were to start on Tuesday last for Shelby. He captured also 12 horses and mules, 15 stand of arms, and 1 stand of colors. Captain Hamilton reports from an organized [*sic*] a regiment north of Batesville, to join Shelby, who, he still thinks, is down on White River. One of the men killed by Captain Hamilton was a deserter from this regiment, who had joined the rebels. I will send the prisoners down by first boat.

T. S. CLARKSON,
Major, Commanding Post.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 4.

Report of Col. James Stuart, Tenth Illinois Cavalry.

HUNTERSVILLE, *July* [9], *1864.*
(Received 8.15 a. m. 10th)

CAPTAIN: The scout of one lieutenant and twenty men sent out by me returned last night. They ran into a small party of rebels; killed and wounded 4; took 1 prisoner.

JAS. STUART,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 5.

Reports of Capt. David H. Wilson, Tenth Illinois Cavalry.

BROWNSVILLE, ARK., *July 14, 1864—5 p. m.*

GENERAL: My camp at Bayou Des Arc was attacked at 4.30 this a. m. by a large force—I should think 800. I went into the fight with 214 men and 7 officers, and came out with 75 men and 5 officers. The atacking party I believe to be Shelby.

Respectfully,

D. H. WILSON,
Captain, Tenth Illinois Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. E. A. CARR,
Commanding District.

BROWNSVILLE, *July 14, 1864—9.50 p. m.*

GENERAL: Yours by telegraph is just at hand. The attack was made on my command at 4.30 this a. m. The attack was made on three sides at the same time. The enemy was dismounted in the front and rear, and mounted on left flank. They must have got into position and made the attack at once, as my dispatch bearer to Brownsville left camp at 4 o'clock and saw nothing of the enemy. I intended to move to Austin this morning and was all ready to start when the attack was made. On the fire of the first gun I ordered my bugler to blow to horse. The Squadrons H, K, and D were pressed so hard by the enemy that they only made out to mount and fall back, and lost largely in men and horses before that could be done. By this time both squadrons were mounted and in line. I ordered them to dismount, to fight on foot, intending to fall back to the bayou, which was about fifty yards in the rear of the two last-named squadrons. As they were dismounting they received volleys from three squadrons of the enemy that had advanced to the north side of the bayou, dismounted and crossed the bayou, and lay under the south bank. I then ordered the two squadrons to mount, and seeing the enemy nearly 'round my right to the bayou and about three squadrons of mounted cavalry coming up on my left, I ordered the two mounted squadrons to break by fours, the left, and charge out between the left of mounted cavalry and the right of the dismounted.

They did so, fighting their way out. The enemy did not show but very little disposition to pursue. My loss in killed, wounded, and missing is 129 men and 2 officers; also my team and ambulance.

I am, respectfully,

D. H. WILSON,
Captain, Commanding Detachment Tenth Illinois Cavalry.

General CARR.

No. 6.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Napoleon B. Buford, U. S. Army, commanding District of Eastern Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN ARKANSAS,
Helena, Ark., July 26, 1864.

SIR: In order to ascertain the force and design of the enemy, yesterday at 4 p. m. I sent out a reconnoitering party of 280 of the Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, eighty of the Sixtieth, and one section of Lembke's colored battery, all under the command of Col. W. S. Brooks, of the Fifty-sixth, with orders to cross Big Creek at Wallace's Ferry, and co-operate with Major Carmichael, of the Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, who left at the same time with 150 men of his regiment, dropping down in a steamer below Old Town, and marching to Simms' Ferry, on Big Creek, to pass through Trenton, and co-operate with Colonel Brooks. All moved as was designed. The infantry and artillery crossed Big Creek at 5 this a. m. and learned that Colonel Dobbin was near there in force with three regiments estimated at 1,500 men. Brooks recrossed, Dobbin crossing lower down before him and attacking him in front and on his right flank with vigor. The assault was bravely resisted for three and a half hours against this great odds, when Major Carmichael, who heard the cannonading, recrossed Big Creek to this side and made a forced march, arriving at the critical moment, when Dobbin had marshaled his reserve and was about to make a final charge on our exhausted forces. Colonel Brooks, Captain Lembke, Adjutant Pratt, and Surgeon Stoddard had been killed, and Lieutenant Crane severely wounded. Carmichael charged right through Dobbin and at once changed the fortune of the day, our forces immediately assuming the offensive and marched homeward, the enemy giving way before them, but following up within nine miles of this place. The whole force returned in high spirits, having successfully combated more than three times their number, and leaving only about 50 killed and wounded, with a very slight loss of baggage, and one caisson and one limber that were blown up, owing to their horses having been killed. The colored troops fought like veterans, none flinched. Major Carmichael by his decision and energetic efforts saved the day. All the troops deserve praise. Major Carmichael captured 4 prisoners, from whom I learn that but for this reconnaissance Dobbin would have attacked the plantations below this place at daybreak to-morrow, and that Shelby is in force on the Spring Creek road, and it was expected that Dobbin would draw me out with a large part of my command, when Shelby would attack the batteries from the hills. I will soon make you more detailed reports of the exact losses. All the officers estimate the enemy's loss at about 150 killed and wounded. The artillery was nobly served by its brave commander, who has given his life to his country. In the loss of Colonel Brooks

the army and the country will mourn a brave and gallant officer. The other officers who were killed died at the post of duty, leaving behind them spotless reputations. I again earnestly call General Steele's attention to the smallness of my cavalry and artillery force. But for this reconnaissance I should have had my hands full to-morrow. What may it bring forth?

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

N. B. BUFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN ARKANSAS,
Helena, Ark., July 26, 1864.

DEAR SIR: Soon after my dispatch of this date left, I learned by my returning forces that my troops, instead of disaster, made a glorious fight. The colored infantry, 360, and one section of colored artillery, all under the command of Col. W. S. Brooks, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, crossed Big Creek at 5 a. m., and learning the enemy were in force recrossed, and were attacked by Colonel Dobbin with three mounted regiments on the front and right. The assault was bravely resisted for three hours and a half, when Major Carmichael, commanding 150 men of the Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, who had crossed Big Creek at a point seven miles below the infantry, hearing the artillery, made a forced march, recrossed the creek, and came in to the relief of the infantry, just as they were being overpowered. Dobbin had a full regiment of his reserves brought forward to make a final charge on our exhausted forces, Colonel Brooks, Captain Lembke, of the artillery, Adjutant Pratt, and Lieutenant Crane having fallen, the first three killed and the latter severely wounded, and having lost about eighty killed and wounded, when Major Carmichael charged through his lines and turned the fortune of the day. Our forces returned here in good order, bringing off the killed officers and all the wounded, with very light loss of baggage. Surgeon Stoddard, of the Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, was killed in the act of examining the mortal wound of his brave colonel. The officers report the enemy suffered the loss of at least 150 killed and wounded. All the command have returned in fine spirits, only mourning the gallant dead. Major Carmichael captured four prisoners, from whom I learn that it was the design of Dobbin to have overrun the leased plantations to-morrow at dawn and draw me out, and that Shelby's force are marching on me by the Spring Creek road. If this is true, except for this reconnaissance I would have had my hands full to-morrow morning. All the country are in arms. If you send me re-enforcements I shall march out and try to clear the country of the enemy. The colored troops, 280 of the Fifty-sixth, eighty of the Sixtieth, and Lembke's battery, have won great credit.

I am, your friend and obedient servant,

N. B. BUFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. C. C. WASHBURN,
Commanding District of West Tennessee.

ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 47. } HDQRS. DIST. OF EASTERN ARKANSAS, *Helena, Ark., July 31, 1864.*

This command is in mourning for four of its most meritorious and gallant officers. On the morning of the 26th instant Col. W. S. Brooks, in command of detachments of the Fifty-sixth and the Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry, and one section of Lembke's battery, numbering, all told, 368 men and officers, were attacked by overwhelming forces, at least three to one, at Big Creek. Surrounded and pressed on three sides, the whole command unflinchingly held their ground for three hours, doing so much damage to the enemy that he was successfully kept at bay. Col. W. S. Brooks early in the engagement, mounted, marshaling and encouraging his men, at the post of duty and honor, fell mortally wounded. His honorable career is thus early closed. He entered the service as a private in the First Iowa Infantry. He was promoted to a lieutenant of the Nineteenth Iowa. He distinguished himself at the battle of Wilson's Creek, and again at the battle of Prairie Grove, where he was wounded. He was appointed lieutenant-colonel of his regiment, now the Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, and promoted to be its colonel, in which office he displayed all the qualities of an excellent officer, the regiment exhibiting daily improvement in knowledge and discipline under his command. He was enterprising and sought active duty and distinction. And how shall we mourn the gallant Capt. James F. Lembke? He was a youthful foreigner, but he became a true American citizen. He enlisted as a private at the breaking out of the rebellion in Taylor's (Chicago) battery. He fought at Belmont, Donelson, Shiloh, Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, and Vicksburg. He was so brave and intelligent that he was made captain of Battery E, Second U. S. Colored Artillery (light), and came here with orders to enlist and organize his battery. We have witnessed his success and faithfulness. Early in the action of the 26th instant, at the post of duty, he fell mortally wounded. The Swedes in America have given us no better soldier. They and we shall cherish his fame. Adjt. Theodore W. Pratt, of the Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry, eagerly volunteered to go with his small detachment as aide-de-camp to Colonel Brooks. He was a useful and faithful officer. He sought active service and distinction, and proved his gallantry and devotion. He fell mortally wounded, on the 26th instant, at the post of duty. Surg. J. C. Stoddard has been known to us as the skillful and faithful surgeon of the Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry from its organization. His attention to his duties was unsurpassed by any of the officers of his department. He was killed while in the act of examining the wounds of his brave commander.

While this action has filled us with mourning for the four gallant officers who yielded up their lives, we mourn also for nineteen killed of our brave troops, and sympathize with Lieut. A. B. Crane, of Company D, of the Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, who was severely wounded. But we rejoice in the glory acquired on this well disputed field by our colored troops. Will they fight? Ask the enemy.

This little band was rescued by Major Carmichael, who was sent out on a parallel line to co-operate, and who instantly flew to the relief of the detachment, as soon as he heard the sounds of battle, seven miles distant, and with his small force of 140 men of the Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry broke the enemy's line and enabled our forces to assume the offensive and return safely to Helena, though having to cut their way through

the enemy, who repeatedly obstructed their path with superior numbers. We have paid the last honors to the dead. Their memories will never perish.

By order of Brig. Gen. N. B. Buford:

T. C. MEATYARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 7.

Report of Lieut. Col. Moses Reed, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTY-SIXTH U. S. COLORED INFANTRY,
Helena, Ark., July 27, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to communicate to you the following report of an engagement at Wallace's Ferry, on Big Creek, twenty-two miles south of west of Helena, Ark., on the 26th day of July, 1864, between a Federal force consisting of 315 infantry, two pieces of artillery, and 130 cavalry, all under the command of Col. W. S. Brooks, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, and a Confederate force under the command of General Dobbin, numbering at least 1,500 cavalry and mounted infantry:

We arrived within three-quarters of a mile of Big Creek at 3 a. m. of the 26th instant. Made a reconnaissance across the creek at daylight, but failing to find an enemy there, and gathering from citizens and negroes the information that the enemy had left the day before in the direction of Cotton Plant, we recrossed the creek, threw out pickets, and in an hour were unexpectedly attacked by an enemy largely our superior in numbers, who advanced upon us from three sides at the same time. We formed our lines and held our position for about four hours under a severe and continuous fire from the enemy, their lines being in some places not more than fifty yards from our own. The fight was severe until about 10 o'clock, when a detachment of the Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, under Major Carmichael, came to our assistance, cutting their way directly through the enemy's lines to reach us. On their arrival the enemy gave way on our right, and, after consultation with Major Carmichael, who represented that Shelby's command was in our rear with from 4,000 to 6,000 men, that could be concentrated in an hour or two, and brought to bear upon us, I determined to retreat, which was effected by officers and men of the command in a gallant and successful manner. The enemy continually pressed us on all sides, we marching in line of battle, keeping up a constant running fight to within eleven miles of Helena, where we found them in force on our front while they were also pressing us heavily from the rear. We immediately engaged them in front, driving them handsomely for two miles, when they withdrew and did not again molest us. The enemy here lost 7 killed.

I regret to state that a few minutes after the fight opened, Capt. J. F. Lembke, Second U. S. Colored Artillery (light), was killed, and Col. W. S. Brooks, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, and Adjutant Pratt, of the Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry, both fell mortally wounded and expired on the field. Soon after, Surg. J. C. Stoddard, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, while examining the wound of Colonel Brooks, was instantly killed, and First Lieut. A. B. Crane, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, commanding Company D, fell severely wounded. These

officers all fell nobly and gallantly defending their country's honor. Capt. G. W. Holibaugh, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, was also slightly wounded.

Too much praise cannot be given Lieutenant Chappel and Sergeant Ward, of the Second U. S. Colored Artillery (light), for the gallant manner in which they served their pieces in keeping the enemy at bay, as also the brave Carmichael and his command, to whom we were indebted for our deliverance. I cannot pass without notice Chaplain J. Brooks, of the Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, who, with a small squad of men, rescued from the grasp of the enemy a caisson with all its horses; and here, too, I must make mention of First Lieut. W. O. Kretzinger, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, who acted as my aide and behaved in a brave and gallant manner. Private Henry Jackson, wagon-master, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, is also entitled to favorable mention for bravery displayed upon the battle-field. Captains Ramsey and Brown, of the Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry, are entitled to a high meed of praise for their cool bravery and heroism under the most trying and difficult circumstances. I can only say that both officers and men of the entire command conducted themselves with the utmost bravery, coolness, and daring.

Our losses are comprised in the following: Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, 2 commissioned officers and 11 men killed; 2 commissioned officers and 24 men wounded, and 3 men missing; total, commissioned, 4; total, enlisted, 34; aggregate, 42. Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry, 1 commissioned officer and 3 men killed, 10 men wounded; total, commissioned, 1; total, enlisted, 13; aggregate, 14. Battery E, Second U. S. Colored Artillery (light), 1 commissioned officer and 1 man killed, 3 men wounded, and 1 man missing; total, commissioned, 1; total, enlisted, 5; aggregate, 6. Total killed, wounded, and missing: Commissioned officers, 6; enlisted men, 56; aggregate, 62. A large number of horses and mules having been killed, we were obliged to leave on the field one caisson complete, one caisson body, 4 wagons and 1 medicine chest, all of which were destroyed. We also lost a quantity of small-arms, the number of which I cannot yet ascertain, but no artillery. We brought off the dead and wounded commissioned officers, also the most of our wounded men, leaving the remaining dead unburied. Adjt. S. J. Clark, of the Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, lost 1 horse killed and equipments.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. REED,

Lieutenant-Colonel Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, Comdg.

Brig. Gen. N. B. BUFORD,

Comdg. District of Eastern Arkansas, Helena, Ark.

No. 8.

Report of Maj. Eagleton Carmichael, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY,

Helena, Ark., July 27, 1864.

SIR: I left Helena in command of 140 men, with the following officers: Captains Hutchens and Adams, Lieutenants Ewing and Anderson. Lieutenant Webster, of the Fifteenth, and Lieutenant David, of the Thirty-fifth Missouri, went as volunteers. I embarked at 3 p. m.

on the 25th instant on the steamers Dove and Hamilton Belle; arrived at Gillen's at 8 p.m.; disembarked and fed, ordering the boats to return immediately. I started on the march at 9 p. m. and found great difficulty in traveling, it being so dark in the bottoms; arrived at Simms' Ford, on Big Creek, at daylight. I learned there that all the pickets along the creek had been withdrawn the day before. I crossed and proceeded on the direct road to Trenton, and near Carlos we captured 4 rebel prisoners, two of whom said they belonged to Foss' regiment, and two to Gordon's regiment, of Shelby's command. They informed me that the headquarters of the command was near there. I went on and found where they had been encamped, but they were gone, having left their wagons, ambulances, and some unarmed men who had scattered in the bushes on hearing of our approach. Just before I arrived at the camp I heard the artillery firing at Wallace's Ferry, and thought it proper to waste no time in gathering up the rebel stragglers. I went on toward Trenton until within one mile and a half of that place, and hearing the musketry I changed my course so as to recross Big Creek, having satisfied myself that there were three regiments besides some straggling companies of rebels, and believed it for the best to reach Colonel Brooks' command as soon as possible. I crossed Big Creek one mile and a half below Jim Scaif's plantation, and proceeded up to Scaif's, thence across Beaver Bayou, thence across Lick Creek near its confluence with Big Creek, thence up to the bottom, and struck the Wallace Ferry road, three-quarters of a mile in the rear of Colonel Brooks' command, arriving at 10 a. m., and found the rebels in his rear on the road. We passed through them, driving them into the woods. I then halted my command, and, leaving it in charge of Captain Hutchens, proceeded myself to communicate with the infantry command and learn its situation. I found that they had been fighting nearly five hours a very superior force of rebels, well organized and well armed, and that Colonel Brooks and several of his officers were killed. Lieutenant-Colonel Reed consulted me on the prospect of getting his command out, which I told him could be done. Leaving him preparing for the march, I returned to the cavalry, and found that they had had some sharp fighting while I was absent, Dobbin having made a charge upon them, which was repulsed, and Captain Hutchens charged the rebels and drove them from the field. We distributed the cavalry to the best advantage for the protection of the command, and Colonel Reed coming up, we started for Helena. I left Captain Hutchens to conduct the rear, and too much praise cannot be awarded him for the skill and bravery displayed during the whole march, handsomely repelling every assault the enemy made upon him.

On arriving near the junction of the Spring Creek road I expected to find the enemy there if at all in our front in force, and had apprised Colonel Reed of the probability and suggested that everything be prepared for action. We found the enemy there, as I expected, and were fully prepared for them and drove them from their position, causing them to disperse in not very good order. The rebels had annoyed us in front, rear, and both flanks all the way from Big Creek till after their last repulse at the junction of the Spring Creek road. From there to Helena we were not troubled by them except in the rear. We captured 5 prisoners of war, 2 of Foss' regiment and 2 of Gordon's regiment, Shelby's command, 1 of Dobbin's regiment. We captured 3 horses and 2 mules. Four of the animals have been turned over to the district quartermaster. Joseph Impey, hospital steward, requests that he may keep one horse which was captured, that is now in his possession, in lieu of one stolen last winter.

Lieut. F. W. Webster, Company D, who volunteered his services to accompany me, rendered very efficient service during the whole expedition. Lieutenant David, Thirty-fifth Missouri, is also entitled to much praise for valuable service rendered. Both of these officers seemed to be always where they were the most needed. Too much praise cannot be awarded to the other officers of the Fifteenth for promptness and bravery in executing every command. The men, too, are entitled to their share of praise for their gallantry. One determination seemed to predominate, and that was to save the command at any cost. The officers and men of the Fifteenth all unite in awarding the highest praise to the officers and men of the colored troops for their stubborn bravery in every action of the day.

The casualties in our regiment are as follows: 1 private, Company C, slightly wounded; 1 private of Company B, who accompanied Colonel Brooks as guide, missing.

Very respectfully, &c.,

E. CARMICHAEL,
Major, Comdg. Detachment Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry Vols.

Capt. T. C. MEATYARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dist. of Eastern Arkansas.

No. 9.

Report of Lieut. Harmon T. Chappel, Battery E, Second U. S. Colored Light Artillery.

HDQRS. BATTY. E, SECOND U. S. COL. ARTY. (LIGHT),
Helena, Ark., July 29, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the evening of July 25, at 4.30 p. m., in company with Colonel Brooks, of the Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, in command of detachments from the Fifty-sixth and Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry, with one section of Battery E, Second U. S. Colored Artillery (light), commanded by Capt. J. F. Lembke, we moved out on the Little Rock road with orders to guard the crossing at Big Creek, eighteen miles from this place.

We proceeded without delay as ordered until 9 p. m., when we halted one hour to rest and get supper, and again moved forward until 3 a. m. 26th instant, within half a mile of Big Creek, where we halted till daylight. At daylight, leaving the transportation, two caissons and the rifled gun, with parts of two companies of infantry, we moved ahead and took position at the crossing of Big Creek, while Colonel Brooks with part of the infantry crossed over to make a reconnaissance. In less than an hour he returned, reporting no enemy in that vicinity, and at once ordering the force left in the rear forward, and that breakfast be got and the teams watered and fed. Before the teams were all unhitched it was rumored that the enemy was advancing upon our rear. I at once got the rifled gun into position about 200 yards from the creek and facing our left, and awaited their approach. The enemy were concealed in the thick timber and were within 150 yards of us before I opened on them, when they charged with a yell, but being well supported by Captain Brown, of the Sixtieth, with sixteen men, and Captain Patten, of the Fifty-sixth, with twenty-five men, and using canister rapidly and carefully, we repulsed them. They next took position

behind the work forming the bridge over the low ground, which compelled the infantry on my right to fall back; being thus left without support on my right or left I fell back and joined the main force, at once reporting to Captain Lembke, who was on the right with the howitzer. Before he had given me any instructions he was shot dead, this about half an hour after the first gun was fired. I at once ordered the rifled gun to support the left under Sergeant Graham, and went to assist my men on the right. From this time until 11 a. m. we kept up a brisk fire, when we were joined by Major Carmichael, of the Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, with about 100 men of his command. After holding a consultation the officers concluded to fall back, as the enemy would soon be re-enforced by troops from General Shelby's command. Having six horses killed and seven badly wounded it was impossible to bring off my caissons, and just at starting two other horses were shot, which forced me to leave all but my two guns and one limber.

The casualties were as follows: Killed, Capt. J. F. Lembke; mortally wounded, Corpl. William Smizer, and left on the field; mortally wounded, Private Robert Jenkins, since dead; slightly wounded, Privates Thomas Thomas and Jacob Early; missing, Private Thomas Jeff. Green.

During the whole fight the colored men stood up to their duty like veterans, and it was owing to their strong arms and cool heads, backed by fearless daring, alone that I was able to get away either of my guns. They marched eighteen miles at once, fought five hours, against three to one, and were as eager at the end as at the beginning for the fight. Never did men, under such circumstances, show greater pluck or daring.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. T. CHAPPEL,
First Lieutenant.

Capt. T. C. MEATYARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dist. of Eastern Arkansas.

No. 10.

Report of Brig. Gen. John M. Thayer, U. S. Army, commanding District of the Frontier.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE FRONTIER,
Fort Smith, Ark., July 30, 1864.

SIR: I have to report that on the morning of the 27th instant a force of between 1,500 and 2,000 rebels, under command of General Gano, all mounted, attacked my outpost, seven miles out, composed of about 200 men of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, under command of Captain Mefford. They moved up in two columns, one driving in the pickets, the other flanking them. Captain Mefford formed his men and fought them bravely, but was very soon overpowered, and he and 82 men were taken prisoners, and the enemy retired before re-enforcements could be got to the relief of our men. I sent a force in pursuit but could not overtake them. There were 10 of our men killed and 15 wounded; 12 of the enemy killed and 20 wounded, left on the field. I have been obliged to keep a force out that distance so that our stock could graze on the prairie.

Some eight days ago eight of my citizen scouts surprised the pickets of the enemy and took 1 lieutenant and 6 men prisoners, and brought

them in. Major Galloway, of the First Arkansas Cavalry, routed Major Pickler and his command, belonging to Stand Watie and Buck Brown's force, killing Major Pickler and a number of his men, and captured 35 horses and mules. Captain Worthington, of the same regiment, subsequently attacked a portion of Brown's force, killing 9 rebels and capturing 15 horses and 3 mules. The enemy, under Cooper and Maxey, are camped on Buck Creek about twenty-five miles southwest of here. I still think their object is to hold this force here, and also to make raids across the river between here and Gibson when the river is fordable, as it soon will be. I have no fears as to this place or Gibson. I may have to withdraw the troops from Clarksville for the reason that I shall have to keep trains running from Fort Gibson to Fort Scott, and shall have to strengthen the escorts on that route, and also guard the fords between here and Gibson. I also have to furnish a large force to guard the parties putting up hay. My cavalry are almost useless as cavalry for the want of serviceable horses. I am anxious to hear about your situation and the movements of the enemy in your front and below you. The force in my front is from 5,000 to 7,000, nearly all mounted. I am only prevented from moving out and fighting them by the want of cavalry and artillery horses. I could not move my batteries twenty miles this hot weather before half of the horses would give out.

I would call your attention to the fact that the term of service of the Second Indiana Battery, now here, expires on the last of next month. I should be glad to get the Third Kansas Battery up here, now at Little Rock.

Very respectfully,

JOHN M. THAYER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. FREDERICK STEELE,
Commanding Department of Arkansas.

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the District of the Frontier, commanded by Brig. Gen. John M. Thayer.**

July 2.—The Ninth Kansas Cavalry was ordered to Little Rock.

July 9.—The First Arkansas Cavalry transferred to Third Brigade.

July 11.—The Second Indian Home Guards transferred to Indian Brigade.

July 21.—The Fourth Arkansas Infantry (organizing) was ordered to Little Rock.

July 27.—At daybreak the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, on outpost duty, six miles from Fort Smith, were attacked by General Gano's (Texas) brigade. Loss: 10 killed, 17 wounded; captured, 115 enlisted men and 2 commissioned officers, Captain Mefford and Lieutenant Defriese.

July 31.—Pickets driven in by forces under Cooper, Gano, Stand Watie, and Folsom, all mounted. Their advance was met by Colonel Judson, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade, one mile from the fortifications, who succeeded, after a brisk engagement, in driving them back. Could not be pursued for want of a sufficient mounted force. Casualties—Colonel Judson wounded, 10 enlisted men killed and wounded. Rebel loss not known.

* From monthly return.

No. 11.

Report of Lieut. Jacob Morehead, Sixth Kansas Cavalry.

FORT SMITH, ARK., *July 29, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report to you that I was in command of Company B, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, on the morning of the 27th instant, when the enemy made the attack on our camp, on Massard Prairie; and as soon as the alarm was given that the enemy was in the prairie, which was about 6 a. m., I sent immediately for the herd, which had been out grazing since daylight, and was about three-quarters of a mile southwest of camp. I formed my men on the right of camp to protect my herd as it came in and until it could be secured, but before the horses could be brought up the enemy charged on us, which stampeded the herd and left the men on foot to fight as best they could. We drove the enemy back, and as I had received no orders from the commanding officer, I ordered my men to fall back until they could form on the right of the other companies. When I had fallen back to the left of my company's parade ground I came in speaking distance of Major Mefford, when I received orders to form my company on the right to protect the camp. I immediately took the position assigned me, with Company D on my left. We held our position, repulsing three distinct charges of the enemy. At this time I saw that Major Mefford had, with Companies E and H, been driven from their position on the left of the line and had begun to fall back across the prairie. I knew that I could not hold my ground much longer with what men I had, so, without receiving orders from Major Mefford, commenced falling back toward him. As we fell back I had several men captured by the enemy that was advancing through the timber in the center of our camp. We fought and retreated in good order until we came within half a mile of the house on the prairie, when the enemy closed in on all sides, taking many more of our men prisoners. Those that were left continued fighting and falling back to the house. There the men that were left were overpowered and captured. Before we reached the house I received a slight wound in the right thigh. Some of my men who were first captured made their escape by hiding in the thick brush, the enemy not staying to hunt for stragglers, but left immediately after the men at the house were captured, taking with them all the men that could travel. All did well under the circumstances, it being a surprise; after driving in the pickets the enemy was in our camp. I lost in the engagement 3 killed, 2 mortally wounded, 5 severely wounded, and 40 men taken prisoners.

JACOB MOREHEAD,
First Lieut., Sixth Kansas Cav. Vols., Comdg. Company B.

Col. W. R. JUDSON,
Commanding First Brigade.

No. 12.

Report of Lieut. Levi F. Stewart, Sixth Kansas Cavalry.

CAMP NEAR FORT SMITH, ARK.,
August 2, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report according to instructions the following:

Being stationed on outpost duty on the Texas road about four miles and a half from Fort Smith, Ark., about 11 p. m. [a. m.] of the morning

of July 31, 1864, hearing my pickets firing, I immediately mounted my men, numbering thirty-five in all, and started to learn the cause of the firing. After proceeding about half a mile I met my pickets coming toward me on a run and a number of the enemy following them, at which I halted and formed in line, and after exchanging shots with the enemy I found they were too strong for the number of men under my command and I [was] forced to fall back toward Fort Smith, Ark., exchanging shots continually with the enemy. I was forced to fall back some two miles and a half. I halted and formed into line and found the enemy had halted. During the skirmishing one of my men was either killed or taken prisoner and one wounded.

The enemy captured all of my camp and garrison equipage, as I was forced to have some camp and garrison equipage as my camp was a permanent outpost.

I have the honor, colonel, to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. F. STEWART,
Second Lieutenant, Commanding Camp.

COMDG. OFFICER SIXTH KANSAS VOL. CAVALRY.

No. 13.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS CONFEDERATE FORCES,
July 16, 1864.

COLONEL: Lieut. J. S. Green, bearing this communication, is duly authorized by me to communicate with you and get definite instructions in regard to certain questions he will ask, but which I am unwilling to trust to paper for fear of accidents.

On the 12th instant I organized a column of 1,000 men into three distinct raiding detachments, and sent them straight at the railroad with orders to waste, burn, and destroy. The column on the extreme right, commanded by Col. B. F. Gordon, struck the Tenth Illinois Cavalry between Searcy and Bayou Des Arc [on the 14th], fought them fiercely for half an hour, routed them, killed 20 on the field, wounded many, captured 87 prisoners, 1 six-mule wagon loaded with supplies, 1 ambulance, and 200 stand of cavalry fire-arms.

This boasted regiment, which has weekly made a pilgrimage to Searcy, and thrown to us the gauge of defiance, was whipped, routed, and scattered, and only saved from utter annihilation by the superior quality of its horses. The other two columns were progressing finely when last heard from, and I hope soon to tell you of good work done for the railroad. I have a heavy force below Clarendon, on White River, which levies a stern contribution of lead on every passing transport, and my scouts range unmolested from the Mississippi River to Devall's Bluff, which latter place they have fired into no less than four times and captured prisoners on the opposite bank of the river.

Acting Brigadier-General Adams is in command of the Northern Sub-District of Arkansas, whose duty it is to regulate its internal affairs, supervise and systematize its civil functions, and perform the necessary duties of a military governor. But I have assumed control of all the troops in the field and left General Adams a few provost guards, because but few were needed. In the event of my leaving here with all the troops the district will be without support, and I wish to know

definitely whether in such an event General Adams is to be left in command of everything; and if so, what number of troops shall be left with him. You are well aware that when the forces under my command leave this country all organized resistance to the enemy will cease, therefore the fewer number of soldiers left here the less incentive will the Federals have to waste and pillage the country.

You will remember I informed you that I had sent Colonel McCray to the Mississippi River for arms and ammunition, and I can now assure you of the success of that expedition—840 stand of arms have been added to the effective force of this district, together with 68,000 rounds of ammunition. I firmly believe I can bring 6,000 new men to the army, and if I have good luck I intend to arm them all. The material for my operations is rather inferior, but by patience, perseverance, and tact I think I shall make "the calling and election sure." In the event of my leaving here shall I bring General Adams with me, and shall I give him any command over the troops I bring out? These questions I desire to have answered immediately. I send you late papers. The news from the East is still, as usual, very encouraging. Colonel Coffee has received authority from General Smith to raise a regiment, giving him until September 1. Shall I leave him here if I return before that time? But it will not do, in my opinion, to leave any troops here, as it will be only a nucleus for deserters to come back to.

Very respectfully,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieutenant-Colonel BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Camden, Ark.

HDQRS. CONFEDERATE FORCES NORTHERN ARKANSAS,
July 31, 1864.

COLONEL: Again I have to report another severe fight and another brilliant victory. You will remember that I informed you in my last dispatch of having sent Colonels Dobbin and Gordon with 1,000 men to ravage and destroy the Government plantations below Helena. They started on the 26th[?], and on the 28th [26th] they met, fought, and routed completely 1,250 white men and negroes, killing 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant-colonel, and 153 men, besides 5 captains, and capturing 5 wagons loaded with commissaries, 2 caissons containing ammunition, horses, mules, guns, and pistols. The enemy had two pieces of artillery; was attacked and driven out of a chosen position behind a levee and driven pell-mell into the corporation limits of Helena.

On the same day at another hour Colonel Gordon with 200 men attacked Major Carmichael of house-burning memory; charged him furiously, scattered his force of 300 veterans, and left 63 of them dead on the field. No quarter was given and none asked. The fight was bloody and brief, and their superiority of horses alone saved them from annihilation. The Confederate loss was 8 killed and 40 wounded. Dobbin and Gordon immediately proceeded to the plantations, since which time I have no further reports.

* * * * * * *

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS SHELBY'S DIVISION,
December —, 1864.

COLONEL:*

I rested until July 12, organizing and putting into running order various regiments and brigades, and scouting and patrolling the country from one end to the other after jayhawkers and robbers, many of whom were caught and executed directly on the spot. In these quiet and sultry days of summer a Federal cavalry regiment—the Tenth Illinois—came weekly to Searcy and sent an indirect challenge for an equal force to come down and fight them. On the 11th [12th] Colonel Gordon with 500 men started after them, and on the 12th [14th] at daylight charged directly into camp, firing upon some sound asleep and others undressed. The panic and rout was complete. Out of the 600 boasting Federals not 100 escaped to tell the tale. Gordon gathered up carefully all the arms, and sending part of his force to the railroad under Major McDaniel, returned to camp with his prisoners.

McDaniel struck the railroad the next day, captured 13 prisoners, destroyed about half a mile of track and telegraph, and returned. A train of cars coming under full steam from Little Rock ran off the embankment, killing 6 soldiers, wounding severely 17, and destroying 1 locomotive and 2 cars. At the same time I sent Colonel McCray with sufficient force to the Mississippi River for several hundred stand of arms, which had been negotiated for. McCray was entirely successful, and succeeded in bringing over about 900 good guns. I now organized a combined attack upon river and railroad, determining to strike a double blow in different directions. Colonel McCray went toward the railroad with about 1,000 men, and I went to White River with about 600.

Reaching the river on the 31st, seven miles below Clarendon, I commenced immediately to get my guns in position. While doing so, and before I could possibly use them, two gun-boats passed slowly down, one of them landing within ten feet of my concealed scouts. After they left the preparations were completed, and the river watched a day and a night, but nothing passed up or down. Still waiting, my tried and trusty spies soon brought me intelligence that a large Federal force was advancing up White River by boats and was already at Des Arc, thus gaining my rear and threatening both the reserve ammunition and unarmed recruits at Jacksonport. No time was to be lost. Marching immediately all that day and night and the next day, I reached Augusta shortly after the arrival of the enemy, who fled hurriedly on my approach. This sudden and rapid movement on my part alone saved me from irreparable loss. McCray reached the neighborhood of the railroad safely, held a good force back as a reserve, and commenced operations. Coleman went first with 500 men, destroyed some of the track, burned some trestle-work, and retired fighting. Jackman one day later made a vigorous attack again, killed 10 Federals, captured 23, destroyed a mile of railroad, stirred up a hornet's nest, and fell back hard pressed. Then a large force of the enemy massed on McCray, forced him back, and he sent to me for help. I marched my entire force night and day to his assistance, checked the Federals, and drove them back, after which my command rested for several days.†

* For portion of report here omitted, see Vol. XXXIV, Part I, p. 926.
† For continuation of report, see p. 649.

My thanks are earnestly due to all my officers and men for their courage and devotion and their eagerness at all times to meet the enemy.

Hoping this report will prove satisfactory, I am, colonel, very respectfully,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Expedition.

Maj. L. A. MACLEAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Arkansas.

No. 14.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Samuel B. Maxey, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF INDIAN TERRITORY,
Fort Towson, C. N., July 30, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I was officially advised last night that on the morning of the 27th instant a detachment about 600 strong, under the command of Brig. Gen. R. M. Gano, made up from Gano's brigade, Col. S. N. Folsom's (Second Choctaw) regiment, and Lieut. Col. J. W. Wells' battalion, attacked the Sixth Kansas Cavalry within five miles of Fort Smith, completely routing it, killing and wounding about 50, capturing 127 prisoners, about 200 Sharps rifles, and about 400 six-shooters, a number of horses, some sutler's stores, camp equipage, &c. Among the prisoners is Major Mefford, who commanded said regiment. A body of Arkansas Federals, who were with the Sixth Kansas, stampeded.

Our loss 8 killed and several wounded; the exact number not known.

An unofficial note from an officer states that the enemy from Fort Smith followed General Gano out on his return and that an attack on the camp was likely. I do not believe the enemy will now throw out anything more than a reconnaissance in force. Preparations to the extent of our means will be made.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

S. B. MAXEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Trans-Mississippi Dept., Shreveport, La.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF INDIAN TERRITORY,
Fort Towson, C. N., August 6, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I received official advices from General Cooper last night, under date August 2, that on the 31st ultimo he made a demonstration in force on Fort Smith, ran in the pickets and all outside the breast-works. Subsequently the enemy on recovering from surprise came out and a picket fight ensued, he losing 2 men killed, and the enemy he thinks considerably more. He captured 12 prisoners and burnt their camp and commissary stores at Green Springs, three miles from Fort Smith; also captured some horses and cattle.

The next day having taken up camp on Cedar Prairie, about nine miles from Fort Smith, he sent a small scout near Fort Smith, west of Poteau, which was heavily shelled (without damage) for several hours

with heavy guns. The scout, under Captain Gunter, First Cherokee Regiment, reported the enemy crossing boxes, barrels, &c., over the Arkansas River, and troops mounted and drawn up on that side. Gunter concluded from what he saw that enemy was evacuating. General Cooper says he is "not satisfied they are evacuating." I think not. The best way to aid in forcing it is to prevent boats running from Little Rock.

In the meantime if the river should ever fall I have given necessary instructions to cut lines of communication north. This movement of General Cooper was made to cover a new disposition of the lines previously ordered. General C. reports the enemy badly alarmed by his movements. Cloud is reported back from Clarksville. If this be so the river is clear from Fort Smith to Little Rock. General Cooper says General Watie reports that Major Pickler was killed at Fayetteville a few days ago; no particulars. He says he hopes to give something more definite by to-morrow of movements about Fort Smith.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

S. B. MAXEY,
Major-General.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Trans-Mississippi Dept., Shreveport.

UNOFFICIAL.

GENERAL: If you have any mercy on a friend away from newspapers and telegraphs send me some news whenever you get it. I am very uneasy about Hood. The enemy having got south of Chattahoochee Forrest is no longer necessary on Mobile and Ohio Railroad. His true move is to Stevenson, Ala., from which point he can destroy the tunnel, twenty-three miles distant, on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, and the bridge at Bridgeport, besides numerous bridges on Crow Creek, and another between Stevenson and Bridgeport. The tunnel can be most effectually destroyed in twenty-four hours. I thoroughly examined it once with a view to its destruction when necessary. I have no fear of Lee, and am satisfied he can and ought to re-enforce Hood.

Yours, truly,

MAXEY.

General BOGGS.

ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 53. } HDQRS. DISTRICT INDIAN TERRITORY, *Fort Towson, C. N., July 29, 1864.*

I. In announcing the brilliant victory won by the force composed of detachments from Gano's and Walker's brigades and Wells' battalion on the 27th instant, while under the command of Brig. Gen. R. M. Gano, near Fort Smith, the major-general commanding returns his thanks to every officer and man engaged. In brilliancy and dash and completeness of success it has not been surpassed in this year of brilliant victories.

II. This order will be published to every regiment and battalion and at every post in this district.

S. B. MAXEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

No. 15.

Report of Brig. Gen. Douglas H. Cooper, C. S. Army.

HDQRS. C. S. FORCES, DIST. OF INDIAN TERRITORY,
In the Field, August 10, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of recent operations by the troops under my command in the vicinity of Fort Smith:

My scouts having reported to me at James' Creek, near old Choctaw Council House, a body of Federal cavalry (supposed to be Arkansans) encamped near Caldwell's, and other detachments on Massard Prairie, five miles from Fort Smith, on the 26th of July General Gano was directed to have a detachment of 500 men from his brigade ready by 3 p. m. for a scout. Detachments from Second Indian Brigade, under Col. S. N. Folsom, and from Wells' battalion, under Lieutenant-Colonel Wells, were also ordered to be in readiness. Lieut. Col. Jack McCurtain was directed to take post with his Choctaw battalion by sunrise next morning on the Devil's Backbone. Capt. J. Henry Minhart was instructed to report to the senior officer present with the detachments as a guide to conduct the expedition; the whole, except McCurtain's battalion, to rendezvous on Poteau, near Page's Ferry, by dark.

The plan, as shown by Special Orders, No. 86 (marked A),* was for Col. S. N. Folsom, commanding detachment from Indian division, to attack the camp of Federals at Caldwell's, on the Jenny Lind road, capture or destroy it if possible, and if pursued by other troops on Massard Prairie or from Fort Smith to retreat by the Fort Towson road over the Devil's Backbone, where McCurtain lay in ambush; the detachment from Gano's brigade to remain concealed near Page's, on Cedar Prairie, until the Federals should pass in pursuit of Folsom, and then attack them in rear, while Folsom and McCurtain should turn upon them at the Backbone.

On the arrival of the different detachments at the Poteau General Gano, finding the force from the Indian division much smaller than I had anticipated, and very properly, under the change of circumstances, in accordance with the latter clause of Special Orders, No. 86, determined to go in command of the attacking party, trusting to the assistance of Colonel McCurtain at the Backbone should he be followed by a superior force.

The expedition resulted on the morning of the 27th in the complete rout of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry and dispersion of the Arkansas Federals.

Enemy's loss supposed to have been about 50 in killed and wounded and 124 prisoners, the destruction of their camp and transportation, the capture of large numbers of small-arms—rifles, revolving pistols, and clothing, &c., in profusion.

The enemy came out from Fort Smith and pursued for a short distance. A few followed to the Backbone, but again retired without molesting our forces, who encamped two miles south of the Backbone at James' Fork for the night. The lack of the party in ambush near Page's enabled them to return in safety to Fort Smith.

* Not found.

The loss on our side was small, viz:

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
Gurley's regiment, commanded by Captain Downs	4	9	1
Detachment 29th Texas Cavalry, commanded by Major Carroll.		1	
Detachment 31st Texas Cavalry, commanded by Major Looscan.		1	
Detachment 5th Texas Partisan Rangers, commanded by Captain Haynes.		5	
Captain Welch's company		1	
Captain Head's company			
Detachments 1st and 2d Choctaw Regiments, commanded by Colonel Folsom.	1	5	
Detachment Wells' battalion Texas cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Wells.	1	4	
Detachment Colbert's company, Chickasaw battalion	1		
Total	7	26	1

This was a brilliant and dashing affair not unworthy of General Gano's reputation as one of Morgan's best officers. Considering the proximity of the enemy in large force, the officers and men engaged merit the thanks and applause of the country which has been accorded to them. All are reported to me as having behaved well.

John B. Turner, acting aide-de-camp on my staff, accompanied the expedition and behaved with his usual gallantry. Col. S. N. Folsom, commanding Choctaw Brigade, and Lieut. Col. J. W. Wells, commanding battalion Texas cavalry, to whom Major Mefford and a large number of Federal prisoners surrendered, were conspicuous on this occasion for their bravery. For further particulars of this affair see General Gano's report, marked B.*

I desire in closing this part of my report to pay a passing tribute to the memory of the Rev. Tiok-homma (or Red Pine, a Choctaw, known among the whites as William Cass), who fell mortally wounded while leading the advance. This brave warrior and Christian had on every occasion displayed the highest order of courage. He served as chaplain in my old regiment, and continued in the same position through every trial, and was also distinguished as a warrior in every battle in which his regiment was engaged until he received his death wound.

On the 28th Brigadier-General Watie was directed to send 200 picked men, under dashing officers, across the Arkansas River for the purpose of breaking up and burning a camp of Federals engaged in cutting hay and pasturing stock on Blackburn's Prairie. It was determined, also, to make demonstration on Fort Smith, thereby creating a diversion in favor of Watie's scouts; ascertain at the same time, if possible, the strength of the enemy, and to cover the removal of Southern families from Sebastian County along the line.

On the 29th Lieutenant-Colonel McCurtain was directed to hold his battalion in readiness at Double Springs to march with General Gano and co-operate with his brigade on the day following. Brigadier-General Watie, with the effective men of his brigade present, was ordered to move up to Scullyville Prairie, and the Choctaw Brigade, under Col. S. N. Folsom, Wells' battalion, and a section of Howell's battery to the same place. General Watie having reported the river too full to cross, the detachments under Colonel Bell and Colonel Adair were ordered to join General Watie at Scullyville. Major Burnet, with his battalion of sharpshooters, the most of the artillery, and the train were ordered

* Not found.

back toward Riddle's. The whole, except Major Burnet's command, encamped on Scullyville Prairie night of 30th, while General Gano and McCurtain bivouacked at James' Fork, near Wall's Mill.

At sunrise on the 31st the line of march was taken up by both columns, that under my immediate command preceded by Wells' battalion. The Creeks, under Major Barnett, were detached at Scullyville, accompanied by Captain Marston, acting assistant adjutant-general on my staff, and proceeded by the river road to Poteau Bottom, opposite (west) Fort Smith. The remainder of the command formed a junction at Wat. Folsom's, on Towson road, near Cedar Prairie. General Gano, in accordance with previous arrangements, was here detached with McCurtain's battalion of Choctaws, and both proceeded to Massard Prairie by the road leading from McCarty's place, seven miles south of Fort Smith. General Watie's command, Colonel Folsom's command, Wells' battalion, and Howell's section advanced under my personal direction on the main Fort Smith road. General Watie was sent forward with guides to drive in the enemy's pickets on the main road leading directly to one of the principal works in front of Fort Smith, at Negro Hill, and also on the Line road to the garrison, while the section of Howell's battery, commanded by Captain Howell, and a section of Lee's light howitzer battery, commanded by Capt. John T. Humphreys, supported by the Choctaw Brigade, First Creek Regiment, and Wells' battalion, were posted at the south end of the lane leading from Harman Mickles' to the old church and grave-yard on the hill overlooking the open field on the north toward Fort Smith. General Watie executed the order given him with his accustomed gallantry and promptness, sending Colonel Bell, with First Cherokee Regiment, on the main road and Colonel Adair on the road to the left known as the Line road, both detachments charging with the gallant impetuosity for which they and their men are noted. He not only routed the Federal pickets, but ran them up to the line of their intrenchments near Fort Smith, and returning the men sat down to the plentiful dinner just prepared for the Federals at their camp.

The enemy having rallied soon began to show themselves on the road, and some sharp skirmishing ensued. The First Creek Regiment was ordered forward to support Colonel Bell, which they obeyed with an alacrity and enthusiasm highly creditable to both officers and men. I would state here that the Second Creek and Seminole Regiments exhibited the same spirit, also expressing a willingness to storm the town from the west side if it was my desire. Wells' battalion was ordered to the Line road, where it rendered important service, though not under fire, in guarding that road after General Watie and Colonel Adair had crossed over on the main road to a position near the forks of the road at Mill Creek, near the Gum Springs. Soon after General Watie reported the enemy advancing in force, having driven in the Cherokee pickets, but was feeling his way very cautiously.

Leaving the reserve (Howell's section and First and Second Choctaw) at Mickles', under Colonel Folsom, Captain Humphreys was ordered forward to General Watie's position and General Gano to cross over from Massard Prairie and join me on the main road to Fort Smith. Having arrived at the camp lately occupied by the enemy I found Brigadier-General Watie with his command in position on the hill south of the spring. General Gano soon arrived, and Captain Humphreys, with his light battery, was advanced and opened on the enemy, then

some 600 or 800 yards in front. A portion of Gano's brigade was thrown out as flankers, ordered to move forward, supported by the Cherokees, who had been previously dismounted. The enemy were driven back and took a position upon a high ridge under cover of the guns at Negro Hill. Captain Humphreys, with his light battery, followed them and kept up a galling fire, which I could plainly see told with considerable effect among the cavalry on the road.

The enemy soon brought up a four-gun battery (Rabb's, I suppose) and commenced a furious cannonade upon our light howitzers, the shot and shell passing harmlessly over our heads for some time. Captain Humphreys, being so unequally matched, was ordered to withdraw, and in the act of doing so a shell exploded directly amid the battery horses, killing 3, wounding 1, cutting off the leg of one of the men. Another shot swept off the head from the shoulders of one of Gano's men. My escort, under Lieutenant Johnson, succeeded, under a very heavy fire, in cutting the dead horses loose from the gun and leading it off with one horse, assisted by the men pushing the carriage along, without further loss.

It was now nearly dark. The enemy's infantry quite near. The undergrowth being thick, their numbers and strength could not be ascertained. Numerous roads by which we could be flanked and the infantry operate to advantage upon my cavalry gave them great advantage. Orders were therefore given to withdraw to Mickles', where the reserve was still posted in anticipation of the possibility of the enemy following in force. General Gano with his brigade constituted the rear guard, and were directed to burn the commissary stores and camp of the enemy on retiring, which was done about dark. The amount of stores destroyed, after our troops had helped themselves to what they could bring off, is estimated in our currency at $130,000.

A portion of the Cherokee troops (dismounted) had advanced in the brush some distance on the left and could not be readily found. Major Howland was directed to find and bring them out. It seems they retired in good order and safely on the approach of night without orders having reached them. All retired in good order and without the least haste quietly to the reserve, and then the whole moved off to Cedar Prairie, about two miles south, and encamped for the night.

The enemy, so far from following, appeared not even to have known, as ascertained from deserters, that we had retired, but retreated to their intrenchments and remained there under arms all night. Deserters also report that the fire from the light battery was very effective.

Colonel Judson, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, was wounded in one leg by the explosion of a shell; also several others, and two ambulance-loads of their dead were carried from the field, supposed to contain 8 or 10 bodies.

Our loss, 1 killed (James Dement, Hardeman's regiment Texas cavalry), 5 wounded, one mortally (Wammack, a Cherokee, of the battery).

I would return thanks in this connection to Assistant Surgeon Fisk, of the battery, and his party for the promptness with which they brought up the ambulance for the wounded within short range of the enemy's battery.

While General Gano occupied an elevated position near Massard Prairie Lieutenant-Colonel McCurtain and his Choctaw battalion scoured the prairie for the purpose of attracting attention, and, if possible, draw out the enemy. In this we failed, but McCurtain captured 3 regular Federal soldiers and 8 Arkansans. He also brought off some horses

and a drove of beef-cattle, with all which he retired to Mrs. Stevens', about two miles south of the forks of the Line and Towson roads.

On this occasion, as on all former ones requiring judgment and bravery, this officer rendered important service.

The Creeks, under Major Barnett, and a few Cherokees, under Capt. Samuel H. Gunter, accompanied by Captain Marston, had, during the day, made their way to the Poteau and fired across into the garrison at Fort Smith, creating, evidently, great excitement and some consternation. Learning that the Poteau was backed up from [the] Arkansas, so that nothing could be accomplished in that direction, I ordered the Creeks to join me at Mickles', where Howell and the Choctaws were stationed, and they arrived just as we were moving off to Cedar Prairie. Captain Gunter was left in Poteau Bottom to watch the enemy.

Next morning we retired, General Watie taking the road to Scullyville after crossing Poteau at Hardaway's Ford. Gano's brigade, the Choctaws, Wells' battalion, and Howell's section returned to Buck Creek.

Soon after leaving Cedar Prairie heavy cannonading was heard in the direction of Fort Smith, which proved to be caused by Captain Gunter and a few Cherokees amusing themselves by shooting at the Federals across Poteau, whereupon a shelling would come, the little party quietly changing position and enjoying the fun, until the enemy were tired of blazing away at their supposed hiding-place. Then they would fire from a different point, which would again bring out the big guns, and so on for the most of the day, which we could plainly hear at Buck Creek, twenty-five miles distant.

Gunter and others here reported the Federals crossing to the north side of [the] Arkansas. In fact, Captain Marston had reported the same the evening before. I supposed the movement to be merely that of Union refugees crossing to take the train to Fort Scott. General Watie, however, having advised me that his picket at mouth of Poteau and at Rock Ford, near Boyd's Mill, heard only four drums at tattoo and no reveille, I determined to send General Watie back to Poteau Bottom and General Gano to Massard Prairie for the purpose of ascertaining whether the enemy were really evacuating, and to hurry them out in case such proved to be the case. Parties who had seen the movements on Arkansas River were so confident that an evacuation would take place that (contrary to my own impression) I concluded to order up my trains and remain. It was soon ascertained that the exodus of the Union families and baggage was the solution of appearances on Arkansas River, and we moved back slowly, resting wherever grass and water could be had—the troops under General Watie to San Bois (Bill Cooper's place), General Gano via Holston's to Riddle's, and the remainder with myself to our old camp on Limestone Prairie—General Gano bringing off with him a herd of cattle and other stock.

While resting at Buck Creek Captain Marston and Captain Gunter, with four men, swam the Arkansas, made a reconnaissance of the enemy on the north side, ascertained certainly that the enemy were not evacuating, captured two Federals with arms, horses, rigging, and greenbacks, paroling one of the prisoners who was badly wounded, and then recrossed again, swimming the Arkansas in full view of the enemy, and arrived tired, but safely, at my camp near Chula Church, where the train had been directed to meet us. This feat is unsurpassed in the annals of the war.

During the whole expedition, extending from the time we started to our return to the train throughout six days (on three days' half rations), the officers and men behaved in the best possible manner, not only under fire but in patiently bearing up against privations of no ordinary character without a murmur.

Before closing this report I cannot refrain from expressing my admiration for the conduct of Brigadier-Generals Watie and Gano, their officers and men, and especially that of Capt. John T. Humphreys and his men of the light battery, who behaved in the most gallant manner under my immediate personal observation.

Lieutenant Johnson, commanding detachment from Captain Colbert's company (K, First Chickasaw Regiment); Sergt. J. H. Johnson, Jonathan Garrison, John Bricham, and Napoleon Mitchell were conspicuous for their bravery in bringing off the disabled piece of Lee's battery, while others of the same company who constituted my escort rendered important assistance.

Colonel Adair, Colonel Bell, Lieutenant-Colonels Brewer, Saladin Watie (son of General Watie), and others are mentioned for their bravery and good conduct by their immediate commanders, to which I desire to call attention.

Captain Howell and the Choctaws, under Col. S. N. Folsom, having been held in reserve, much to their disappointment, were not engaged. Their selection for the reserve shows my appreciation of their courage and steadiness, and that upon them the command mainly depended for support in case of need, and for a nucleus upon which to rally in case the enemy had proved more numerous and less timid than he did at Fort Smith.

To the officers of my staff—Capt. B. W. Marston, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. T. C. Dismukes, ordnance officer; Col. Jack Coarser, military instructor of Indian division, and Mr. Cal. Thompson, volunteer aide-de-camp—for their cordial and energetic assistance throughout the expedition I am under lasting obligations.

The demonstration in front of Fort Smith resulted in driving the whole Union population of Sebastian County within the town, thus increasing the enemy's embarrassments on account of food, and in satisfying me that the enemy was weaker and more demoralized than I had anticipated. A vigorous attack with the whole force, though doubtless it would have been attended with heavy loss on our side, I believe would have resulted in the capture of the place. It was, however, too hazardous after the enemy's detachments were recalled to undertake any further operations in that direction. Our horses being worn down, men tired and hungry, and the force under my command much weakened by the expiration of the term of enlistment on the part of the larger portion of the Choctaw Brigade, it was deemed advisable to fall back to the vicinity of our depot for rest, and to give time for reorganizing and recruiting the Indian brigades.

Referring to accompanying reports from subordinates for further particulars,

I am, captain, respectfully, your obedient servant,

DOUGLAS H. COOPER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. T. M. SCOTT,
A. A. G., Dist. of Indian Territory, Fort Towson, C. N.

JULY 1–OCTOBER 1, 1864.—Operations against Indians in the District of Minnesota.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Henry H. Sibley, U. S. Army, commanding District of Minnesota, including operations from October 1, 1863, to October 1, 1864.**

HDQRS. DIST. OF MINNESOTA, DEPT. OF THE NORTHWEST,
Saint Paul, Minn., October 10, 1864.

GENERAL: In compliance with directions contained in dispatch of 5th instant, from department headquarters, I have the honor to make the following report of military operations for the year ending 1st instant:

Upon the return from the expedition under my command against the hostile Sioux Indians in September, 1863, I was instructed to dispatch to the South all the force that could be spared from this district. Orders were accordingly issued to the Seventh, Ninth, and Tenth Minnesota Volunteers to proceed without unnecessary delay to Saint Louis, and report for duty to the commanding officer of the Department of the Missouri, and these regiments left this district accordingly on the 7th and 8th of October following.

The Sixth and Eighth Regiments were retained for the protection of the frontier, the former being for the most part posted at Forts Snelling and Ridgely, and at the out stations north of the Minnesota River, to Paynesville, and south to the Iowa line, while the companies of the Eighth garrisoned Forts Abercrombie, Ripley, and the intervening stations, and performed escort duty to the trains of public supplies. The Independent Battalion of Minnesota Volunteers, raised and commanded by Maj. E. A. C. Hatch, having been ordered to report to me for assignment to duty, was dispatched on 10th of October to Pembina, to hold in check the hostile Sioux who had retreated for safety into Her Majesty's coterminous possessions, where they could not be followed by our troops, as I had received stringent orders from General Halleck, through department headquarters, in no case to cross the boundary line with a military force. About ninety Sioux men, women, and children came across the boundary and surrendered to Major Hatch, commanding at Pembina. The battalion, with one section of mountain howitzers of Third Minnesota mixed battery, went into winter quarters at Pembina, and remained until about the 1st of May of the present year, when I ordered Major Hatch with his command to relieve the detachments of the Eighth Regiment Minnesota Volunteers at Fort Abercrombie, and at the stations of Pomme de Terre and Alexandria, that regiment having been designated as part of the expeditionary force to join Brigadier-General Sully on the Missouri. The other three sections of the mixed gun and howitzer battery (Third Minnesota) were stationed respectively at Forts Ridgely, Snelling, and Ripley.

During the month of September, 1863, Sergeant Edwards, of the First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, was killed by a party of savages on the road between Lake George and Paynesville. This was the only outrage committed after the close of the campaign of 1863. In that year within this district I kept employed during the winter an efficient body of Indians and half-breeds, who had proved their fidelity to the Government since the outbreak of 1862, as scouts, and so disposed of them as to secure constant and reliable information of the movements of the hostile bands from time to time, and of their views and intentions.

*See also Vol. XXII, Part I, pp. 352 and 907, and Vol. XXXIV, Part I, p. 937.

Knowing there were among the Sisseton Sioux quite a considerable number who were anxious to make peace with our Government, I employed with your sanction Rev. Father André and J. R. Brown as special agents on the part of the military authorities to open a communication with them, and endeavor to detach them, and also well disposed Indians, of other bands, from the hostile combinations. Their efforts were only partially successful. Some of the chiefs and principal braves appeared at Fort Abercrombie and signed the conditions of peace which were granted them, but the larger portion of the friendly disposed Sissetons were prevented from thus surrendering themselves by the menaces of the bands still determined upon war, and by the representations of the Red River half-breeds that if they did give themselves up they would all be executed by hanging. A vigilant watch was enforced along the extensive frontier by the forces stationed for that purpose, but no raids were attempted by the savages during the winter. On the 17th of May, 1864, a white boy was killed by a war party on the Watonwan River, and on the following day a soldier of the Sixth Minnesota Volunteers was wounded not far from the same spot. One of the Indians probably belonging to the same gang was subsequently killed by two soldiers of the Sixth Regiment near the Cottonwood River, and the others only escaped by concealing themselves in the almost impenetrable thickets on the banks of that stream. A foray was made on the 11th of August, following, on the settlements on the Blue Earth River, and two citizens were killed and one badly wounded by the savages, who succeeded in effecting their escape, after a hot chase by a detachment of the Second Minnesota Cavalry. The pursuit was followed up by a number of my scouts, until the latter found themselves confronted by a force of fifty warriors, who luckily for the pursuers were for the most part without horses. From conversation with the Indians at a safe distance the scouts learned that they were of the White Lodge's band of Sisseton Sioux, the actors in the horrible massacres committed at Lake Shetek in 1862. A strong detachment of cavalry was sent to destroy this party as soon as information had been given of their proximity to the settlements, but some days having intervened no traces could be found of the savages, who seem to have retreated precipitately to the westward after having been discovered. Three citizen teamsters were murdered by a party of twenty-one Sioux warriors on the 24th of August, on the Red River of the North, at a point equal distant between Georgetown and Fort Abercrombie. The murderers were pursued by Major Adams with a detachment of forty men of his battalion, but they had too long a start to be overtaken. Other small parties of Indians have infested the frontier during the summer, but the slender force under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Pfaender was kept in motion, and with the aid of a few State minute-men called into service by Governor Miller, has secured the settlers from further molestation up to the present time.

In obedience to your summons, I repaired to the headquarters of the department at Milwaukee in the latter part of February last, to confer with yourself and Brigadier-General Sully relative to the military operations of the ensuing season. The plan adopted by you was communicated to each of us officially, and in accordance with that part of it which required me to furnish a force from this military district to join General Sully's command on the Missouri, I issued orders for the concentration near Fort Ridgely on the 28th of May following of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, under Colonel Thomas, of six companies of the Second Cavalry, under Colonel McLaren, and two sections of the mixed gun and howitzer battery of the Third Minnesota, under Captain Jones.

This force, including about forty scouts, numbered 1,551 men, all mounted, and Col. M. T. Thomas, of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, was placed in command, with orders to march on the 6th of June to Swan Lake, the locality on the Missouri River indicated for the junction with Brigadier-General Sully. The route was prescribed by me, and so well timed was the movement that the co-operating force from this district reached Swan Lake only a few hours after the arrival of the other brigade, having marched 332 miles from Fort Ridgely.

The operations of General Sully being confined entirely to the limits of his own district, it is no part of my duty to follow his movements or detail the part taken by the brigade from this district in the two successive engagements which resulted in the defeat of the Teton bands of Sioux with a heavy loss in warriors, and the sacrifice of a very large amount of subsistence, buffalo robes, cooking utensils, &c. In these conflicts I have good reason for the belief that the Minnesota troops gallantly performed their part. The Eighth Regiment Minnesota Volunteers is now on the way to this city en route for the South, in accordance with your directions, and the other detachments are being stationed for the additional defense of the frontier. The Sixth Regiment Minnesota Volunteers was, by directions of the War Department, communicated through you, dispatched to Helena, Ark., from this district on the 14th of June last. The chasm created by the removal of that regiment from the line of posts north and south of the Minnesota River, including Fort Ridgely, was but partially and insufficiently filled by two companies of the Second Minnesota Cavalry, which was all the disposable force at my command for that purpose, and I felt great anxiety lest a knowledge on the part of the powerful bands of Sioux on the north of the Missouri that very few troops were left for the protection of so long a line would embolden them to make a demonstration in force and renew the atrocities of 1862. That this was not done can be accounted for in no other way than that they had not yet recovered from the demoralizing effects of the defeats encountered by them during the campaigns of 1862 and 1863. Fort Wadsworth, so denominated by order of the War Department, is a new post in process of construction near the head of the Coteau des Prairies, about 190 miles from Fort Ridgely and seventy-five from Fort Abercrombie. Your directions required me to build the fort on the James River, if timber sufficient could be found, and if not, to select the nearest practicable site to that stream. After a full examination of the valley of the James River by Captain Burton, a competent and judicious officer, Major Clowney, of the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteers, who had been chosen by me to carry out your instructions, became satisfied, as I had previously been from personal observation, that no wood for a military post could be found on the upper James River. Following my orders he examined the country near the head of the Coteau des Prairies, and fixed upon what is represented by all who have seen it to be a very commanding and defensible position. The work was energetically commenced and prosecuted by Major Clowney, and is proceeding as rapidly as possible under the direction of his successor, Major Rose, Second Minnesota Cavalry, who with four companies of that regiment has relieved the four companies of the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteers at that post. The latter command is on its way to this city, being ordered by you to the South. Fort Wadsworth is one of the most important military stations of the Northwest. It is to be hoped that your intention to construct a similar large fort at Devil's Lake can be successfully carried out during the coming year, thus completing the cordon of posts in the heart of the Indian country.

When completed and garrisoned by a strong force they will exercise a powerful effect on the wild bands of Sioux, who for the past two years have occasioned so much mourning and alarm among the white border settlers by their ruthless deeds of massacre and desolation.

In addition to the other duties imposed upon the troops in this district, they have had to act as escorts to trains of supplies to distant posts, and on one occasion last fall three companies of the Sixth Minnesota Volunteers were dispatched, as guard to a large provision train belonging to the U. S. Indian Department, to the Indian reservation on the Missouri. These companies with their charge left on 15th of November, accomplished the march safely, and returned to this district about the 1st of January last, having marched nearly 800 miles, without any loss of men or animals. The extent of the line to be protected from the hostile Indians may be estimated at upward of 400 miles, and a force is also required at Fort Ripley to operate as a check on the Chippewas, who are uneasy and discontented. Until these Indian difficulties are at an end there should be, in my judgment, not less than one entire regiment of men and one battery, in addition to the force required to hold the posts and stations, in order properly to defend the frontier and repel attack. There are now in this district the regiment of Second Minnesota Cavalry, six companies of Independent Battalion, one company Veteran Reserve Corps, Third Minnesota Battery, five companies of U. S. Volunteers and Connecticut cavalry, with detachments of other rebel deserters and refugees which have been dispatched to this district for service. Many of the latter are desperate characters, requiring an equal number of men to keep them in subjection and prevent their desertion. A few men have been on duty in the provost-marshal's department, and one company of the Independent Battalion is now serving as provost guard under the direction of acting assistant provost-marshal-general of the State.

In concluding this report I beg leave to call through you the earnest attention of the honorable Secretary of War to a subject which I have repeatedly presented in my official dispatches to department headquarters. I refer to the fact that the British Government still permits Her Majesty's territories to be made the refuge of the murdering bands who disturb the peace of our frontier, from the pursuit of the troops under my command, and these savages are in constant and open communication with British traders, who furnish them with ammunition and other articles with which to carry on the war with our Government without let or hindrance by the local authorities. Indeed, the half-breed subjects of Her Britannic Majesty traverse our domain in every direction for purposes of trading and hunting, and are thus directly interested in the continuance of hostilities between us and the upper bands of Sioux Indians, and it is known that they foment discontent with the Chippewas with whom they come in contact by representations that they are defrauded by the United States Government by payment in paper instead of coin, of the money due them under treaty stipulations. In fact, until some arrangement shall be made between the two Governments whereby these constant violations of international comity on the part of Her Majesty's subjects can be arrested, and a sufficient force of troops to guarantee the neutrality of British soil stationed in the vicinity of the boundary line, it is almost hopeless to look for a speedy solution of these Indian difficulties. On the contrary, if it can possibly be effected by the influence of the Red River half-breeds, we may anticipate that the Chippewas will soon be added to the number of our active enemies. I trust you will agree with me in my views of the im-

portance to be attached to early action on the part of the United States Government, and press the subject upon the attention of the honorable Secretary of War.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. SIBLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. JOHN POPE,
Comdg. Department of the Northwest, Milwaukee, Wis.

JULY 3, 1864.—Skirmish in Platte County, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

SAINT JOSEPH, MO., *July 4, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. Daniel M. Draper, with a detachment of the Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, attacked a band of guerrillas in Platte County yesterday, killing 6 and wounding 3 of the villains. We captured 15 horses and many revolvers. Two of our men were wounded. Among the dead bushwhackers was the leader of the band who committed the murder in Buchanan County in May last.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

JULY 3–25, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Baton Rouge, La., with skirmish near Benton's Ferry, on the Amite River (25th).

REPORTS, ETC.

No. 1.—Itinerary of the Second Brigade, Cavalry Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, Lieut. Col. Thomas Logan, One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Mounted Infantry, commanding.

No. 2.—Maj. Franklin Moore, Second Illinois Cavalry.

No. 1.

*Itinerary of the Second Brigade, Cavalry Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, commanded by Lieut. Col. Thomas Logan, One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Mounted Infantry.**

July 3.—The One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Volunteers, in obedience to orders received, left Port Hudson and arrived at Baton Rouge the same day; distance, twenty five miles. Captured 2 prisoners on the march. The usual picket duty has been done during the month.

July 17.—With 400 men made an expedition across the Amite River. Killed 2 and captured 8 prisoners. Returned the following day; distance, twenty-one miles.

July 21.—With 400 men went across the Amite, crossing at Benton's Ferry. Captured 1 prisoner. Returned to camp the following day; distance, 15 miles.

July 24.—Sent Maj. Franklin Moore, Second Illinois Cavalry, with 136 men across the Amite River, crossing at Benton's Ferry. He reports

* From monthly return.

that he attacked Captain Doyal (rebel) in his camp seven miles from the river, whipped him, burned his camp, including 150 stand of arms and 7,000 rounds of ammunition; captured 2 prisoners and killed 15 or 20. Returned to camp the following day; distance, twenty-eight miles.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Franklin Moore, Second Illinois Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ILLINOIS CAVALRY,
Baton Rouge, La., July 25, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders received from division headquarters, dated July 24, 1864, with detachment from the Second Illinois Volunteer Cavalry and One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Mounted Infantry, numbering in all 135 men, I marched at 7 p. m. out to the Amite River, distance seventeen miles. Found the river swimming, and camped for the night. Crossed at daylight. Came upon their pickets about a mile and a half from the river; drove them seven miles to place of encampment, when I completely routed them, numbering 300 men, capturing 150 stand of arms, which were broken and destroyed for want of transportation, 4 horses, 4 prisoners, and destroyed some 15,000 rounds of ammunition. I then fell back to the Amite River, heavy skirmishing all the way, where I formed line of battle and delivered a deadly fire into them, killing some 20. Casualties in my command, 4 horses killed.

Respectfully submitted.

FRANK. MOORE,
Major, Commanding Second Illinois Volunteer Cavalry.

Captain STEIN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

JULY 5–6, 1864.—Scouts from Big Piney, Mo.

Report of Capt. Henry B. Brown, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAMP BIG PINEY, MO., *July 8, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of a scouting party sent in the direction of Houston from this place, Corporal Calvert in command, with orders to capture, if possible, a noted bushwhacker by the name of Pruitt, whom we have tried to capture several times while at this place. Pruitt was also reported by Mr. Wayman as being the individual who robbed him (Wayman) a short time ago. The scout succeeded in capturing him, and while returning with him by way of Mr. Wayman's, and when within three miles of there, learning that he was to be taken before Mr. Wayman, he tried to make his escape by running, whereupon the guard shot him after chasing him several hundred yards, killing him instantly. This scout was made on the 5th of July. Also on the 6th of July I sent out another scout under command of Lieutenant Muntzel, in the direction of Johnson's Mill, on the Big Piney. The lieutenant succeeded in capturing one U. S. horse and one U. S. mule; also got reports of rebels being quite numerous between the head of Spring Creek Hollow and Houston. Twelve rebels crossed the Rolla and Springfield road half a mile east of my camp July 6. I sent out a scout after them, who chased them six miles in the direc-

tion of Richwoods, and they here lost their trail, it becoming dark, and returned to camp. I hear also reports of there being twenty or thirty rebels in Matthews' Prairie, twelve miles northeast of this camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. BROWN,
Captain.

Col. A. SIGEL,
Commanding Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

JULY 5–7, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to Simsport, La.

Report of Col. Edmund J. Davis, First Texas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Morganza, La., July 7, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have to report that in obedience to instructions from headquarters of the forces at this place, I started on the morning of the 5th instant for Simsport, on the Atchafalaya, taking with me 400 men. The object of the expedition was to ascertain the truth of a report coming from the gun-boats at the mouth of Red River, that the rebels were crossing artillery at Simsport. I soon ascertained that there was no truth in this statement. I found that the rebels had sent away their troops from the neighborhood of the Atchafalaya. Some of them have crossed Red River and others gone toward Alexandria and Shreveport. We only encountered a small picket of seven men and a lieutenant, of whom 3 were captured. These belonged to Gould's (Texas) regiment (Twenty third Texas). At Simsport two men belonging to same regiment and detailed as ferrymen were captured, with the flat-boat and yawl used at the ferry, and the boats destroyed. There was a small picket seen on the other bank of the Atchafalaya, which was driven away by a few shots from our men. I think there is no doubt that the most of the enemy's force has gone up and across Red River. On last Saturday (2d instant) the rebel General Wharton with one brigade was at Trinity, on the west bank of Black River about thirty or forty miles west of Natchez. I could hear of no other troops or any artillery in his neighborhood, though I presume there must be some, as Wharton ranks as a major general. We captured 7 prisoners in all, of whom one made his escape.

Respectfully,

EDMD. J. DAVIS,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry, Nineteenth Army Corps.

Capt. F. SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JULY 5–10, 1864.—Expedition from New Madrid to Caruthersville, Mo., with skirmishes.

Reports of Lieut. Col. John T. Burris, Tenth Kansas Infantry.

WEAVERSVILLE, *July 9, 1864.*
(Via New Madrid.)

GENERAL: Have been scouting four days through the swamps of this region with detachments of the First Missouri Volunteer Cavalry,

under Captains Preuitt, Edwards, and Vincent. Have killed 13 bushwhackers and captured some arms, a few horses and mules. No casualties on our part except 1 man wounded. Expect to be at New Madrid in a few days, when I will furnish a detailed report.

JOHN T. BURRIS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Brigadier-General EWING.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND SUB-DISTRICT,
Cape Girardeau, Mo., July 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 5th instant I moved from New Madrid with detachments of the First Cavalry Missouri Volunteers, and Second Cavalry Missouri State Militia, commanded, respectively, by Captains Preuitt, Edwards, and Vincent, numbering in all about 200 men. At Weaversville, twenty miles west of New Madrid, we killed James Fields, a noted guerrilla of that vicinity, and near that place wounded a guerrilla captain, who, however, escaped in a swamp, but has, as I am informed, since died. From Weaversville we moved west across Little River, and over what is known as the plank road, a distance of twelve miles, to Clarkton, in Dunklin County. On the morning of the 6th we moved from Clarkton in a southwesterly direction across the swamps and bayous extending out from the Saint Francis River. We surprised and routed several small parties of guerrillas during the day, and killed in all 8 of their number. Crossing the Saint Francis we halted for the night on Blue Cane Island. On the morning of the 7th we marched on Scatterville, Greene County, Ark., where we came upon Bolin's band and a party of Kitchen's men; we killed 4, the rest scattered. No loss on our part except 1 man wounded. We then moved in a northeasterly direction eighteen miles to Brown's Ferry, where we halted for the night. On the following morning we swam our horses across the Saint Francis River and marched by way of Clarkton and over the plank road to Weaversville. On the 9th I sent about one-half of the command back to New Madrid under Lieutenant Burnett, and proceeded with the remainder to Gayoso and Caruthersville, in Pemiscot County, to co-operate with an infantry force under Captain Kelling, which I had previously ordered into that region. At Caruthersville we came upon Bush Powell with a very small party of men; we killed 1, the others escaped. The command of Captain Kelling, consisting of forty men of Company E, First Infantry Missouri State Militia, and thirty-five men of Company B, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, African descent, embarked on board the gun-boat Huntress, No. 58, at New Madrid on the 6th and at Quigley's, near the Arkansas line, on the morning of the 7th. From there it marched west into Cowskin Settlement; found a camp that had just been evacuated, and had a skirmish with a small party of bushwhackers, but could find no considerable force. On the 8th they moved northeast, and camped that night near Caruthersville. During the day and night they had several skirmishes with the guerrillas, killing in all, as Captain Kelling learned from the citizens the following day, 8 of their number. On the 9th instant, the day on which my cavalry arrived at Caruthersville, Captain Kelling, with his command, moved from that place per steamer Graham to New Madrid, and on the following day I marched with the cavalry to the same point. Result of the combined movement is 23 bushwhackers killed, several muskets, rifles, and revolvers captured

and brought in, near 50 common rifles and shotguns, which were unfit for Government use, captured and destroyed, and 52 horses and mules captured and turned over to the quartermaster at New Madrid.

I have the honor to be, general, yours to command,

JOHN T. BURRIS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS EWING, Jr.,
Commanding Saint Louis District, Saint Louis, Mo.

JULY 6–24, 1864.—Scout in Southeastern Arizona.

Report of Maj. Joseph Smith, Fifth California Infantry.

FORT GOODWIN, ARIZ. TER., *July 25, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report for the information of the colonel commanding that in compliance with Special Orders, No. 78, dated headquarters Fort Goodwin, Ariz. Ter., July 5, 1864, I left this post on the afternoon of July 6 with a command consisting of Capt. E. B. Frink and his company (A), Fifth Infantry California Volunteers; Lieut. John Martin and his company (D), First Infantry California Volunteers; Lieut. Porter Haden and fifteen men of Company C, First Cavalry California Volunteers, for an Indian scout in the vicinity of the Rio San Francisco or Nutroso and its tributaries. On leaving the fort we proceeded in a northerly direction to the Rio Gila, where we camped for the night; distance about three miles. Plenty wood and water; grass of an inferior quality. Left this camp on the morning of July 7 at 5 o'clock. Crossed river and proceeded up a deep sandy arroyo for about seven miles; then came into the high rough mountains. Crossed this range and turned to the right along north side of them. Arrived at some water-holes in a deep rocky ravine at 2 p. m. about six miles from summit of mountain. Men and mules very tired, trail being rough and rocky and mountains high. Barely sufficient water here for my command; plenty wood and grass; day's march about eighteen miles. Left camp at the Tanks at 6 a. m. July 8; marched over a range of rolling hills and deep gulches. Halted at cienega at 8 o'clock. Found this cienega completely dry and no water for animals anywhere to be found. Sent some men up the cañon about 600 yards and found a hole in the rocks with sufficient water to fill the men's canteens. Distance from the Tanks to this cienega by the route I traveled, eight miles, and by the trail traveled by Lieutenant-Colonel Davis some two months ago, twelve miles. Left this cienega at 9 a. m. and marched over low, rolling hills mostly covered with small, loose rock, and struck the spring at the head of the Rio Bonito at about 4 p. m. Went down the stream about one mile and camped for the night. The trail to-day leads through a large, wide valley running southeast and northwest, the same as described by Lieutenant-Colonel Davis as reaching the San Carlos. The valley has the appearance of being rough and broken by short mesas and deep sandy ravines. Saw some five pony tracks in this valley two or three days old, leading in the direction of the San Carlos. Found the tracks of two or three Indians on the river this evening when going into camp, which led me to think that there might be a rancheria on this creek lower down, so I ordered Captain Frink to take twenty men of his company, and Lieu-

tenant Martin to take fifteen men of his company, and Juan Arroyas as our guide, and leave our camp at 12 o'clock at night and surprise the rancheria if one could be found. Marched this day about twenty-five miles.

Left this camp on the morning of July 9 at 6 o'clock, and followed down the bed of the stream about four miles, and came up with Captain Frink's detachment, which had left our camp in the night. They found no sign of Indians whatever. Here I made camp for two days to send my detachment of cavalry to the mouth of the river to hunt for Indians, and also to meet the express party from the post. This creek runs through a deep cement cañon. The whole length of the stream there is but one small piece of bottom land where the Indians could raise any grain, and this does not contain more than fifty acres. This camp I called Camp McCleave in honor of Captain (now Major) McCleave, First Cavalry California Volunteers, who surprised and killed a party of Indians at this point some time last year. At this camp there are some eight or ten old rock buildings which are in a perfect state of preservation, being under a high cement bluff. A rough sketch* of these buildings was taken by First Lieut. J. B. Whittemore, First Infantry California Volunteers, which I have the honor to submit with this report. Water, wood, and grass plenty at this camp. Nothing of interest transpired during the 10th.

July 11, I took Lieutenant Martin and twenty men and started to explore a gap in the mountains east of camp. We had not gone more than one mile and a half from camp when we discovered a party of Indians on a divide, or high mesa, about one mile from us. I saw at once that I could not get to them, and that they were completely out of range of our guns, so I sent a man of my command down a gulch, unobserved by the Indians, with orders to Captain Frink, then in camp, to take twenty-five men and go up a deep cañon behind the Indians and surprise them. During the time my man was going to camp the Indians hoisted a flag and wanted to have a talk, so I sent Lieutenant Martin with a flag to meet one of the Indians and talk with him. The remainder of the party then changed to another hill, getting a little closer to my command and getting out of range from where I first found them, so when Captain Frink with his men came over the hill where I had ordered him the Indians were out of the range of his guns. The Indian told Lieutenant Martin to get his captain and he would bring his (the Indian chief) and make arrangements and come into my camp. I concluded this to be the one chance to get them, as they could get away from us in a few minutes where we could not follow them to do any good. Lieutenant Martin and myself then went about half a mile and met the chief and his interpreter, the balance of the Indians, sixteen in number, sitting at about thirty yards from us looking on, and my men then at about 500 yards with a gulch intervening. I talked to the chief and persuaded him to come with me to the Gila and see the great captain, and then he could bring all his people and make peace. We parted with the understanding that he would come with me, but after he had another talk with his warriors they wanted to take a different route to my camp, and this did not suit me, so I ordered my men to commence firing upon them. We chased them about two miles, but they could outrun us amongst the rocks and high hills. I think we must have wounded 5 of the number, as I only saw 13 get away. There were only 18 in all. These are the only Indians that I came across on the whole trip.

* Omitted.

My express party came in this evening, and I determined to make a night march to the Negrito on the next night. I could not leave this evening, as my guide was very sick and was not fit to travel. Left camp on Rio Bonito on the evening of July 13, with seventy men, and made a night march across the Negrito. Left Lieutenant Haden, with the balance of the command, to follow me in the morning with the pack train. We marched over a very rough country and arrived in sight of the Rio Negrito about 10 p. m. Here Juan [Arroyas], my guide, and myself went on top of a high hill overlooking the course of the river for a great distance, but could discover no fires or other signs. I camped here on the side of the mountain, completely hid from view, until morning. At daybreak we went down to the river, but found no signs of Indians. Waited in the brush all day for the train to come up. Train came in all right. Made camp here for the night. Ordered Lieutenant Martin to take Lieutenants Young and Whittemore, and fifty men, and go up the river for ten or fifteen miles and see if he could find any Indians, and to leave camp next morning at 3 o'clock. For particulars of his scout I would respectfully refer to his report,* herewith submitted. Left camp on Rio Negrito on the morning of July 16. Followed down the river about five miles by a narrow cañon and filled with brush and timber. Here took the trail over the mountain to the Francisco or Nutroso. This is a terrible mountain to cross; very rough and rocky. Descending the mountain on the northeast side to the Rio Francisco, saw some very rich looking copper leads cropping out of the ground. Distance here between the two rivers about twenty-two miles. Found water in tanks about half-way between the two rivers. Found no Indian sign on Francisco whatever. Has the appearance of no Indians being there this season. Found no grass at first camp on river. Mules nearly all barefooted and gave out on account of sore feet. Men's shoes worn out, and they very tired. Left camp early in morning of 17th and moved down river about three miles. Came to good grass. Camped to graze animals and rest men. Ordered Captain Frink to take Lieutenant Martin and fifty men, and proceed down the Francisco to its junction with the Gila, and then down the Gila cañon and meet me with the balance of the command at the Pueblo Viejo. Broke camp at 5.30 morning of the 18th, Captain Frink and party going down the river. For all the incidents of his march I respectfully refer to his report,* herewith submitted. With the pack train and balance of the command I struck across the country across low rolling hills and came out on the Rio Gila about twenty miles above the mouth of the Francisco, July 19, and marched up the Rio Gila about ten miles and camped. Wood and grass plenty all along river. July 20, marched up river about two miles and then struck across the mountains and came out in Gila at the Pueblo Viejo. This is a very rocky and hard trail to march over. Found water about twelve miles from the pueblo in tanks in the rocks. Day's march thirty miles. Men and mules very tired. Was fourteen hours making this march. Found Captain Frink at the Pueblo Viejo, he having beat us one day. There I was compelled to lie over the 21st to rest my men and mules. From this point I followed down the Rio Gila to this fort, where I arrived on the 24th instant, nothing of interest transpiring on the march down the river.

For the distance marched and the direction traveled, I would respectfully refer you to a journal of the trip prepared by First Lieut. J. B.

* Not found.

Whittemore, First Infantry California Volunteers, which is herewith transmitted.* My opinion of the country traveled over is that the country bordering on the Rio Negrito and Francisco is very rich in minerals. Copper I know is abundant, and is as fine looking gold country as I ever saw, and I think that the mountains contain great quantities of silver; but for agricultural purposes the country is of no value, as the streams all run through a deep rocky gorge until they empty into the Rio Gila.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH SMITH,
Major Fifth Infantry California Vols., Comdg. Scout.

Lieut. WILLIAM A. THOMPSON,
Adjt. Expedition against Apaches, Fort Goodwin, Ariz. Ter.

JULY 6-30, 1864.—Operations in Western Missouri.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

July 6, 1864.—Skirmish near the Little Blue, Jackson County.
7, 1864.—Attack on Parkville.
10, 1864.—Affair at Platte City.
13, 1864.—Action at Camden Point.
Affair at Versailles.
14, 1864.—Skirmish near Fredericksburg.
15, 1864.—Attack on Huntsville.
16, 1864.—Skirmish on the Clear Fork, near Warrensburg.
Skirmish on the Fayette road, near Huntsville.
17, 1864.—Action near Fredericksburg, Ray County.
19, 1864.—Scout to Taos.
20, 1864.—Attack on Arrow Rock.
21, 1864.—Attack on Plattsburg.
22, 1864.—Skirmishes near Camden Point and Union Mills.
23, 1864.—Skirmish near Liberty.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Kansas.
No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.
No. 3.—Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry.
No. 4.—Maj. Douglas Dale, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 5.—Maj. Henry Suess, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry, Chief of Cavalry.
No. 6.—Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.
No. 7.—Capt. George A. Holloway, Assistant Adjutant-General.
No. 8.—Maj. John M. Clark, Eighty-second Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 9.—Maj. Samuel P. Cox.
No. 10.—Capt. Benjamin F. Poe, Eighty-ninth Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 11.—Capt. Edward P. Elmer, Second Colorado Cavalry.
No. 12.—Lieut. Henry F. Goss, Eighty-seventh Enrolled Missouri Militia.

* Not found.

No. 1.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Kansas.

WYANDOTTE, *July 14, 1864.*
(Via Fort Leavenworth.)

A combined force of cavalry belonging to Departments of the Missouri and Kansas, under Colonel Ford, marched from Weston yesterday and made a gallant dash on rebel camp in Camden, Platte County, completely routing and scattering rebels. Our loss, 1 killed and 1 wounded; rebel loss, 15 killed. Ten kegs of powder, many guns, accouterments and equipment captured by our troops.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, *July 14, 1864.*

Our forces, combined, under Colonel Ford, fell upon the rebels at Camden last night. Short fight and complete rout of rebels; pursuit turned southward. Enemy's loss, 15 killed; also large number of muskets, shotguns, accouterments, and ten kegs of powder. Our loss, 1 killed and 1 badly wounded.

S. R. CURTIS.

General ROSECRANS.

No. 2.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
[*July 9, 1864.*]

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that Captain Wagoner, Second Colorado Cavalry, with a scouting party of twenty-five men, was attacked on the 6th by a band of guerrillas, numbering about 100, in a pass two miles south of the Little Blue, on the road between Independence and Pleasant Hill. Captain Wagoner and 7 men were killed and 1 man wounded. The enemy lost several men, but as they carried off their dead and wounded in the coach which they captured soon after and on their horses the number was not ascertained.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, Mo., July 12, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that on the 6th instant Captain Wagoner, Company C, Second Colorado Cavalry, with twenty-five men,

while scouting from Raytown, Jackson County, down the Little Blue, was attacked by Todd and about 100 guerrillas in a pass two miles south of that stream on the road between Pleasant Hill and Independence. Captain Wagoner and 7 men killed; 1 wounded. The guerrillas had 6 killed at the pass, and 2 others by a foot scout that afterward fell in with a squad of them. The enemy seized the stage and carried off their wounded, going easterly in direction of the Sni Hills. The guerrillas had collected for the purpose of attacking the escort of Brig. Gen. James Totten, inspector-general, Department of the Missouri, who they expected would go through the pass; but he had taken the route by way of Hickman Mills. They missed him. The meeting with Captain Wagoner was an accidental one. One of the two guerrillas killed by the foot scout was in the uniform of a Confederate officer. As Todd was the only officer known to have been dressed in this manner it may be him; but there is no positive information in relation to it.

While bearing testimony to the good conduct of the troops under my command in all branches of the service, and particularly to the Second Colorado Cavalry, yet no one of the brave soldiers in the Central District will pardon me if I fail to do justice to the gallantry, soldierly qualities, and gentlemanly character of Capt. Seymour W. Wagoner. He fell at the head of his little band of heroes bravely contending against overwhelming odds.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

WARRENSBURG, *July 17, 1864.*

I have the honor to report that on Wednesday night, 13th instant, Gregg's band of thirty men attempted to rob Versailles, Morgan County. Were attacked and driven off by the citizen guards of that place.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

WARRENSBURG, MO., *July 17, 1864—12 m.*

I have the honor to report that two guerrillas rode on to the ferryboat, opposite Boonville, and compelled the master to carry them across the river. On landing at the upper part of the town they passed into the country, being joined by one of their comrades. They robbed one citizen of a span of horses and killed another for resisting them when they robbed him. Colonel Wear, Enrolled Missouri Militia, pursued them with a party of citizens, recaptured 3 horses and killed 1 of the guerrillas.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

WARRENSBURG, MO., *July 17, 1864.*

I have the honor to report that Captain Turley, Seventh Missouri State Militia [Cavalry], with a scout of twenty-five men, attacked Hutchins' and Steward's band of guerrillas on Clear Fork yesterday, killing 5 of them. This makes 81 that the troops under my command have killed since the 1st of June.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

WARRENSBURG, MO., *July 18, 1864.*

Captain Parke, Fourth Missouri State Militia [Cavalry], at Boonville, reports 150 guerrillas in Howard County, killing daily, and that Franklin was robbed yesterday.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WARRENSBURG, MO., *July 21, 1864.*

The sheriff of Saline County reports to Captain Parke, at Boonville, that Arrow Rock was burned last night. There was a company of ninety citizen guards and a squad of soldiers at that place. The soldiers are said to have made their escape.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WARRENSBURG, *July 23, 1864.*

Todd's guerrillas scattered in the Sni Hills in bands numbering from fifteen to seventy-five. Thornton was above Lexington, within three miles of the Missouri, yesterday noon. It is reported that he will cross the river between Sibley and Napoleon. The Fanny Ogden is on the way up the river from Glasgow. I have ordered her up the river to prevent a crossing of Thornton's forces and to ferry Ford's command if he arrives on the banks in pursuit and Thornton would make a crossing. If Thornton should cross the river and unite the different bands of Todd, he will be strong enough to make a raid on many of the border towns. Colonel McFerran's cavalry are still in pursuit.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Reports of Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry.

INDEPENDENCE, MO., *July 7, 1864.*
(Received 8.30 a. m. 8th.)

CAPTAIN: Captain Wagoner, Company C, scouting from Raytown, with twenty-five men, was attacked by Todd with over 100 guerrillas, well armed, about two miles south of the Little Blue, on Independence and Pleasant Hill road. Captain W. and 7 men killed, 1 wounded. Enemy's loss we do not know. They took the coach and carried off their dead and wounded. Enemy immediately retreated into eastern Jackson and western La Fayette, dividing up into small squads as usual. Our foot scouts killed 2 on their retreat, 1 dressed in Confederate uniform. We hope it is Todd. They were collecting for the purpose of attacking General Totten and myself en route from Pleasant Hill to Independence. We came via Hickman Mills to inspect troops at that place. The skirmish took place Wednesday, the 6th, just at 2 p. m.

J. H. FORD,
Colonel, Commanding, &c.

Capt. JAMES H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Warrensburg.

KANSAS CITY, *July 9, 1864.*
(Received 9 a. m.)

CAPTAIN: I have positive information that 6 bushwhackers were killed by Captain Wagoner's command in the late skirmish.

J. H. FORD,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. JAMES H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Warrensburg.

HEADQUARTERS FORD'S BRIGADE,
Camden, Mo., July 14, 1864—7 a. m.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that we ran on to the enemy at this place, killing 15 of them. Our loss, 1 killed and 1 badly wounded. The enemy's force was from 200 to 300. They were gaining largely every day, pressing citizens and horses. A large number of them were out at this time on that business. Our force actually engaged with the enemy was about 150. Have heard signal guns all night at intervals of half an hour; direction south. Shall move in five minutes, south probably. More particulars by the first opportunity.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. FORD,
Colonel, Commanding.

P. S.—Captured and destroyed a large number of muskets, shotguns, cartridges, accouterments, &c.; also ten kegs of powder.

J. H. FORD.

General CURTIS,
Commanding Department of Kansas.

KANSAS CITY, *July 17, 1864.*

Todd with 150 thieves threatens Independence. Three hundred or 400 of Thornton's whelps down in Ray County, opposite Lexington, trying to cross. I have sent the Fanny Ogden with one section of battery and 100 men to stop their crossing. Todd is playing the devil in my sub-district. I have not troops enough to protect all sides. These few rebels in and about Weston are there only to draw back our forces. I I must have a part of my men back, or I will lose Independence.

J. H. FORD,
Colonel.

Major-General CURTIS.

KANSAS CITY, *July 18, 1864.*

GENERAL: Attacked enemy at Camden Point. They ran. We killed 15 of them there. Our loss, 1 killed, 1 mortally wounded. Chased them clear down in Ray County. Killed at least 25 on the road down; all of them in arms; killed no citizens, although many of them need killing. Have called a large mass-meeting, to be held at Liberty on Wednesday next, and have names of all disloyal men and sympathizers, and have told the people that I will hold the men responsible for actions of their particular friend Thornton. I will give them a chance to redeem themselves and then try and save their county from destruction. Todd and his thieves are raising the devil in my sub-district. I cannot go down into Ray without leaving my counties completely unprotected. One hundred and fifty whelps now threaten Independence. We only have thirty men there. I am doing all I can. A large party opposite Lexington is trying to cross the river. Have sent a steam-boat with one section of artillery and 100 men, under Major Suess, down to prevent their crossing. I received General Rosecrans' order to remain over there, but I cannot leave my own men unprotected. General Curtis has withdrawn the Kansas troops. The balance of my force is at Liberty. Colonel Draper is there. If I have to bring my troops over would recommend that Colonel Draper be left there for the present.

J. H. FORD,
Colonel, &c.

General FISK.

KANSAS CITY, *July 21, 1864.*

On Sunday, the 17th instant, Captain Moses, with forty-seven men, scouting seventeen miles northeast of Liberty, near Fredericksburg, Ray County, came onto a large force of the enemy, over 300 strong, under Colonel Thornton. After a severe fight they had to retreat to the brush, where Captain Moses again rallied his men. They fired their last shot from their revolvers, when Captain Moses gave the order to separate and do the best they could. Our loss, 6 killed, 4 wounded, 2 missing. Enemy's loss, 16 killed and 21 wounded. The information as to the enemy's wounded we get from the inhabitants. I think it is correct. Captain Moses behaved with coolness and bravery, discharging before he left the field eighteen shots, all he had. He escaped uninjured, but received five bullet holes through his hat and clothes, one of which grazed his forehead; his horse received four wounds but carried him safely off the field. He reports that his men fought desperately, also that our carbines again failed us and we had to rely on the pistols. Major Pritchard was immediately sent in pursuit with 250 men. He

followed them to Knoxville, where they had commenced breaking up in small bands. His men and his horses giving out he gave up the pursuit and returned. Small bands of these thieves infest every portion of these counties. Thornton can raise a large force, I think, without doubt, 1,000 men, throughout the whole district.

J. H. FORD,
Colonel, Commanding.

Major-General ROSECRANS.

KANSAS CITY, *July 25, 1864.*

Express just arrived from Liberty. Major Smith has returned to that place. He ran on enemy's rear guard, killed 3 of them; they scattered in every direction. I start in the morning with my pack-mule outfit; hope to give you a better report hereafter.

J. H. FORD,
Colonel Second Colorado Cavalry, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

KANSAS CITY, *July 25, 1864.*

Hearing that the guerrillas were concentrating near Plattsburg I left Liberty July 22, 6.30 a. m., with 300 Second Colorado Cavalry, Major Smith commanding, and 190 Ninth Missouri State Militia [Cavalry], Lieutenant-Colonel Draper commanding, for that place. Learned on road that they had fight with militia of that place, killing 1 captain and 1 soldier; also learned that they had started west toward Buchanan County. I left the Plattsburg road, struck west toward Gosneyville, keeping flanking and scouting parties out in every direction; passed through Gosneyville, camped at Ross' Mill, fed, rested men and horses. Started at dark, moved out on the prairie, encamped until 2.30. Started again on track, moved northwest to Camden Point; met Major Cox, in command of 500 militia and citizens, poorly armed. They had a skirmish with the band the day before; lost 1 killed, 5 wounded; enemy's loss not known. Enemy here seemed to have scattered in every direction; finally I found trail of the largest party, about 140, who were moving back east; another party moving west in small bands toward Buchanan County. I sent Lieutenant-Colonel Draper to Saint Joseph as per General Fisk's telegraphic orders. Major Cox and his militia started on the trail; we had just come to Plattsburg. I took the Smithville road after the largest party with 300 Second Colorado Cavalry; followed enemy back to within eight miles of Liberty, when they again doubled on me and moved toward Buchanan County. I followed about five miles. Our wagons and ambulances were very much in our way; concluded to bring them in; left Major Smith with 211 men on their trail. We labored under a great disadvantage; the citizens gave the enemy information of any movement I made, stand picket for them, and I can get no information whatever only as I send out small parties to play bushwhacker, and they are very careful. Then another disadvantage in this last trip: I took ration train with me. If I allow the men to live on the country they are continually straggling all over the country; if I carry rations on their horses it wears the horses out this hot weather. If I go back on another scout in that country I shall fix up pack animals, live in the brush with them for a

few weeks. Had we known that part of the country as well as we now do we could, I think, have closed them out. I have reliable information that about eighty crossed the river Saturday night into this sub-district, and I think they intend to cross their whole command in small parties as fast as they can. Thornton is getting no more recruits and some few deserting. I do not believe he has over 800 men, scattered all through the country. Three battalions, each 300 to 400 strong, with pack-mules would easily make a clean sweep of those counties by living in the brush with them about two weeks, keeping out of all towns, and fight them in their own way. My regiment is badly needed here at present. Can I come back when through with this scout?

J. H. FORD,
Colonel Second Colorado Cavalry.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 4.

Report of Maj. Douglas Dale, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

ON BOARD STEAMER POST BOY,
Lexington, Mo., July 17, 1864.

GENERAL: I arrived at this place at 6 p. m. this day. Cleared the river of flat-boats and skiffs to this place, as far as I could find, and in compliance with orders. I have no doubt but that there are skiffs hauled out in the brush at points along the river, which would almost be impossible to be found. I heard of no guerrillas on the river except three at Rocheport and two at Boonville the day before we arrived at those places. I heard of no bands within striking distance from the river, hence I have not sent the cavalry out. There seems to be quite a number of them on the north side of the river in Boone, Howard, and Carroll Counties, but have committed no depredations on the river towns within a few days past, except the instance of killing a man at Boonville. A band crossed at a point below this (of which place I cannot definitely learn) variously estimated at from twenty to thirty, and are said to have killed from eight to twelve Union men in Carroll County, several of the killed being discharged soldiers. It is supposed to be the same band that robbed Huntsville. They are also reported as having recruited to the number of seventy-five or eighty, and are trying to get south of the river. They are said to be in the Grand River country. I could hear of guerrillas in Saline County, variously estimated at from fifteen to forty in numbers, said to be in Saline Bottom or Bend, but could hear nothing definite as to their numbers or whereabouts. I will leave here to-morrow morning at 2 o'clock. Will disembark the cavalry at this place, and make a dash on Wellington at daylight, and, if no enemy in striking distance, will there take the cavalry aboard and move on up the river. By advising with Colonel McFerran he thought the trip above here would be attended with better results by making it in daylight. Both officers and men are conducting themselves with propriety.

General, I am, with much respect, your obedient servant.

D. DALE,
Major Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Brig. Gen. E. B. BROWN,
Commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 5.

Report of Maj. Henry Suess, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry, Chief of Cavalry.

GLASGOW, MO., *July 21, 1864.*

I have just arrived. Lieutenant Woodruff, First Missouri State Militia [Cavalry], was attacked by about 200 guerrillas at Arrow Rock last night. He fought them three-quarters of an hour, losing 3 men missing, and all his horses. He and his men are here. I shall take him to Frankfort. I have placed the garrison of Miami and Cambridge at Frankfort. I brought 120 men, under Captain Wyckoff, from Lexington, who marched from Miami, at 7 o'clock this morning, in pursuit of the rebels, 150 strong, under Todd, who passed at 5 p. m. yesterday five miles south of Miami on the gallop east. Captain Queen marched with fifty men from a point opposite Chicken Point and six miles below Waverly at 5 o'clock this morning for Marshall. Ferguson, with eighty men, I met at Waverly at 7 p. m. yesterday, and ordered him to Marshall. I leave for Miami soon. Will return early to-morrow morning. Thornton's band, 300 strong, were at Mandeville yesterday at 12 m., marching east. Citizens of Carroll County are armed and ready to defend themselves.

HENRY SUESS,
Major and Chief of Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. E. B. BROWN,
Warrensburg.

Copy sent Maj. O. D. Greene, assistant adjutant-general, with the following additional:

I have ordered Colonel Hall to look out for a raid on the railroad towns east of Sedalia. Major Suess is in command of the Fanny Ogden.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

No. 6.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH MISSOURI,
Saint Joseph, Mo., August 1, 1864.

COLONEL: In accordance with instructions received from headquarters Department of the Missouri, I have the honor herewith to hand you a preliminary report of the origin and causes of the troubles in the counties of Platte and Clay, in the State of Missouri. When the difficulties shall have been to some extent settled I shall organize a court that will place in the form of evidence what I here state for the information of the major-general commanding the Department of the Missouri.

That it may be fully understood what constitutes Paw Paw Militia, the cause of most of this difficulty, I state that the so-called Paw Paws were disloyal citizens and returned soldiers and officers from the rebel army who had been enrolled as disloyal under General

Orders, No. 24, series of 1862, from headquarters State of Missouri. These men were organized into companies and regiments, under the direction of the Governor of the State of Missouri, in the summer of 1863, for some purpose to me unknown. Of the policy that dictated this organization, or of the effect upon the loyal element thus to be guarded, protected, and watched by armed rebels, many of them fresh from the Confederate army, I say nothing. Representations were often and freely made to the proper authorities that these troops were doing a vast amount of harm to the loyal sentiment of the State of Missouri, and it was shown in many instances that these troops would in no case fight the guerrillas and thieves who infested the neighborhoods where they were stationed in the northwestern portion of the State. The officers and men of the Eighty-second Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia allowed the Confederate Colonel Winston to remain safely harbored and protected in the county of Clay during the winter of 1863–'64, and used no exertion to arrest him, although his presence in their very midst was a well-established fact. They would not and did not arrest him. After the capture of Colonel Winston by Captain Kemper's company, of the Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, it was a matter of continued report by these Paw Paw officers and soldiers that he had left a companion in Clay County commonly known as Coon Thornton, but whose name is John C. Calhoun Thornton, and who is reported to be a colonel in the rebel army. This man, it is well known, was recruiting for the Confederate service, and had several agents at work for him to this end in the counties of Platte, Clay, and Ray. It has even been the subject of conversation with these Paw Paw officers and myself that companies of the Eighty-first and Eighty-second Enrolled Missouri Militia were in league with Thornton, and that numbers of the men of certain companies had joined his organization. It was claimed that every effort possible had been made to arrest him, but without avail. The whole population of the district in which he was operating aided and informed him, and his work went on briskly and smoothly. Upon my accession to the command of the district I learned that all of the Eighty-first Enrolled Missouri Militia had been relieved from duty, but had been permitted to take their arms home to their houses, and it was often reported to me by loyal men that these armed rebels were one by one slipping out of sight into the brush with their arms, and upon diligent inquiry I ascertained these reports to be in the main true. I immediately ordered the disarming of these men, their arms to be delivered to the armory at Saint Joseph, Mo., and upon receipt of the order twelve men of Captain Cox's company, of the Eighty-first Enrolled Missouri Militia, took their arms and disappeared. The company commanded by Captain Bywater, at Camden Point, came in and delivered up their arms at Camden Point preparatory to sending them to Saint Joseph. They were stored in an old warehouse, and two men of the same company left on guard over them. The same night a small body of unarmed guerrillas rode into the town, surprised the guard, and carried off the guns and accouterments. Captain Bywater's company has not been heard of since then. They belonged to the Eighty-first [Eighty-second] Enrolled Missouri Militia. On the occasion of a skirmish between loyal militia and bushwhackers, some of these Paw Paws were seen by their old acquaintances among the bushwhackers. Owing to the extreme difficulty of obtaining troops for service in this district, some of the best of these Paw Paw companies were retained on duty. Rumors of intended risings of the rebels were continually reaching my headquarters, and at length, on the morning of the 7th of

July, 1864, during my temporary absence in Howard County, a body of guerrilla thieves, headed by Coon Thornton in person, made their appearance at Parkville, Platte County, entered the town without the least particle of opposition from Captain Wilson's company (E), Eighty-second Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, stationed at that point, killed 1 man, wounded 2 men and 1 woman, and plundered the town of everything they chose. After being joined by some members of the militia they left in the direction of Platte City.

On the 9th day of July it was discovered by Maj. John M. Clark, Eighty-second Enrolled Missouri Militia, commanding at Platte City, that these guerrillas were in force in front of the town, and it was known to him that First Lieut. William Downing, Company G, Eighty-second Enrolled Missouri Militia, commanding detachment of said company, went out to where these rebels were and held free conversation and intercourse with them. Upon his return he informed Major Clark that the guerrillas were coming into town, and that he for one did not intend to resist them, but was for them rather than against them.

On the morning of the 10th of July Major Clark abandoned the command of the post to Capt. R. D. Johnston, Company A, Eighty-second Regiment, and started off for a visit to his family, fifteen miles distant. Captain Johnston being left in command immediately took counsel with such of his officers as were present, and determined, in view of the known disloyalty of most of the command and the continued assertions of Lieut. William Downing that he would not fight the guerrillas, but help them, that he could do no better than surrender the garrison. Upon his announcing this fact, Lieutenant Downing immediately went out and came into the town with the guerrillas, who forthwith took possession of the town and all that was in it. They took down the flag of the Union, and tearing it into shreds fastened them to the heads of their horses. Here again was repeated the scene of transformation of Missouri State soldiers into bushwhackers, for in less than a quarter of an hour after the occupation of the town nearly the whole of Captain Johnston's command appeared dressed in Confederate uniforms. According to a careful estimate of the force that so easily transferred their allegiance, prepared by Major Clark before referred to, the number of men was distributed as follows: Capt. R. D. Johnston, Company A, Eighty-second Enrolled Missouri Militia, twenty men; Lieut. J. H. Nash, Company C, Eighty-second Enrolled Missouri Militia, twenty men; Lieut. J. W. Martin, Company D, Eighty-second Enrolled Missouri Militia, fifty men; Lieut. William Downing, Company G, Eighty-second Enrolled Missouri Militia, twenty men; Capt. P. Simpson, Company M, Eighty-second Enrolled Missouri Militia, twenty men; making in all a force of 130 men who were actually on duty as U. S. soldiers and who joined the rebels. Besides these, there were numbers of the militia who were not on active duty, but who joined them as they passed through the country. It is the opinion of those whom I consider best qualified to judge of this matter that not less than 250 to 300 of this class of Enrolled Missouri Militia joined the guerrillas. Major Clark, as soon as his way was clear, reported safely at my headquarters. I shall have him brought to trial speedily. The total number of troops that joined Thornton and Thrailkill, his second in command, was four times the force at Thornton's disposal at the outset of his raid. Since the 15th of July about thirty five of these traitors have been killed. About 100 are in the brush sending messages to me to know how they can renew

their allegiance, claiming to have been conscripted by Thornton, and a few have been taken at Atchison and Leavenworth, Kans., in attempts to escape, and are now confined in jail at Atchison.

In closing this report I can only say that every word of it is capable of proof, and an examination of all facts such as I propose to make will probably show up a darker shade of villainy and corruption than appears in this preliminary report.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding District of North Missouri.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of the Missouri.

No. 7.

Report of Capt. George A. Holloway, Assistant Adjutant-General.

JULY 14, 1864.

Our combined forces had a fight with the rascals last night at Camden Point, burned the town and mustered out a few devils, but the rest were routed, some of them coming this way. Part of Noland's company have joined them, and some of the guns they had are gone too. I think 100 or 200 of them are near Sparta, but do not know certainly. I shall put about 400 men on duty in the city to-night. Major Penick and I have a perfect understanding concerning the defense of the city. The assistance of the citizen companies is cheerfully rendered. Understand they have a scare at Weston this p. m. It is supposed by some very intelligent men that the rebel organization does not number less than 1,500, and that they are not fully at work. Nearly all the young men of rebel families have taken the bush. Captain Davis' company came in this morning. They were surrounded all day yesterday. Colonels Ford and Jennison and Lieutenant-Colonel Draper left Weston yesterday with about 600 good cavalry and a section of artillery; have heard nothing from them to-day. You are much needed here but troops are indispensable. We can't run in this manner much longer.

G. A. HOLLOWAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

General FISK,
Saint Louis.

No. 8.

Report of Maj. John M. Clark, Eighty-second Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HEADQUARTERS,
Platte City, Mo., July 8, 1864.

GENERAL: I reached home on yesterday about 10 a. m. Soon after my arrival I received information of the presence of a considerable body of guerrillas in the east and southeast portions of our county. I at once set about concentrating my forces at this place. About 3 p. m. I received a dispatch from Lieutenant Nash, Company C, stating the guerrillas made an attack upon Parkville and captured the place. One

man was killed and 2 wounded, and also one woman was wounded. Robbed the stores (my own among the rest) of their contents, taking all the money they could get, and left in the direction of Platte City. Since then I have heard nothing of them. I sent a scout out as far as New Market to intercept General Fisk, so as to post him as to our condition, but did not find him. I learned that he had passed three miles east of New Market, about 9 or 10 a. m., in the direction of Smithville. I have heard nothing of him since, but suppose he has passed through safely. I have some eighty-five men in the field this morning, and think they will be able to give a good account of these gents soon. The guerrillas number some sixty or seventy men.

Yours, in haste,

J. M. CLARK,
Major, Commanding Platte County, Mo.

No. 9.

Reports of Maj. Samuel P. Cox.

CAMDEN POINT, MO., *July 23, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that we came up with the bushwhackers four miles north of this place at 2 o'clock, and we had a skirmish with them, which lasted but a short time. We made a charge on them and they fled in every direction. Some two hours after the fight we took one of them prisoner, and from him learn that the bushwhackers had 2 killed and several wounded. Our loss is 1 killed and 3 wounded. A part of the bushwhackers went back across Platte River below the Union Mills. Can't you send fresh troops to follow them? Our horses and men worn out. Something ought to be done forthwith.

S. P. COX,
Commanding Forces.

General FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri.

GALLATIN, *July 25, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report to you that according to orders received at Breckinridge from you to pitch into the rebels, I started with my command of home guards. We went south some twelve miles, where we were joined by Lieutenant Desha's company from Chillicothe. At dark we halted and rested till 12 o'clock, and then we moved off in pursuit of guerrillas. Just at that time Colonel Brown came up with two companies more, Capt. N. B. Brown and Captain Brumfield. The company commanders at that time were as follows, to wit: Lieutenant Desha, Captain Woodruff, Captain Brown, Captain Noblett, Captain Brumfield, Captain Leabo, and Lieut. S. Brown. We started out and reached Kingston just at sun-up and found the guerrillas had robbed and plundered that town of at least $10,000 in money. The next place was Mirabile, where they got about the same amount of money from Doctor Crawford's safe. They robbed the stores of all they wanted. We then started for Plattsburg only a few hours behind them. They killed one man twelve miles east of Plattsburg.

I do not recollect his name; he was taken from the house and shot. They went direct to Plattsburg and made an attack on that place and demanded a surrender, but Captain Poe refused, he being in command, as Captain Turney had just been killed; but just before we came up they left, going south in a hurry. We camped at Plattsburg for the night. Captain Johns and Captain Jones, of Caldwell, came up; also Captain McDonald, from Stewartsville. On the morning of the 22d we left Plattsburg, Captain Poe, of that place, taking twelve of his men and went as the advance guard. We went south to Carpenter's Store; there the guerrillas had camped that night. At that place we found the grave of one man that was wounded at Plattsburg. They then moved in the direction of Union Mills. When we got there we found out that they were but a short distance ahead. We then made a forced march for about four miles, when we came up with them about three miles west of the Union Mills. They left the main road and went off on a by-road in some of the worst brush that they could find. They concealed themselves, and when our advance came up they were fired on. I then dismounted three companies and moved forward to find out their situation. We moved up in the brush close to where they were when they fired on us; we returned the fire, they fell back a short distance, and we also fell back to load. Then I had several other companies brought up and put in position. We then moved up the second time, and the enemy met us about the same place and both parties fired about the same time. We repulsed them again, and boys fell back a short distance again and reloaded again.

During this action our horses stampeded, caused by the boys yelling and the roar of the guns. It took us some little time before we could get ready again; then we moved up the third time and the enemy met us about the same place, but that time we routed them and they went in all directions through the woods and over fences, through the fields as hard as they could. Our loss was—1 killed, James B. Ayres, of Captain McDonald's company, at Stewartsville; wounded, James Tucker, of Captain Brumfield's company, in the head, slight; John Acord, of Brown's company, in the side; John Carter, of Captain Leabo's company, in the thigh, and several others slightly. The loss of the enemy, as far as could be ascertained, was 2 killed and 16 wounded. We captured 3 horses and some guns and revolvers. I then moved to Camden Point and camped all night. The next morning Colonel Ford came up and took the trail of the guerrillas at Stauer's Mills. I then left the trail and moved back to the Union Mills, and as we passed close to where we had the fight the day before we captured, in company with H. M. Herman, a noted rebel spy, who was acting as his guide to the camp of the bushwhackers, and returned with my command, who were worn out by hard marches through the heat and dust which has compelled me to return and rest.

I cannot close without returning my sincere thanks to all of the officers and men that were under my command for the way they stood up both in the fight and on the march; also to Colonel Smith and Judge Dodge and Lieut. I. N. Henry and Doctor Crawford, of Caldwell, and Col. W. S. Brown, Lieuts. H. M. Singleton and L. M. Martin, of Daviess, and Mr. Hubbard, of Clinton, for their valuable services rendered me both on the march and in the skirmish.

I am, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

S. P. COX,
Commanding Scout.

[General FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri.]

No. 10.

Report of Capt. Benjamin F. Poe, Eighty-ninth Enrolled Missouri Militia.

JULY 21, 1864.

About 9 a. m. Captain Turney and First Lieut. George W. McCullough, with twenty-six men, went out to reconnoiter and find the position of the enemy. About 10 a. m. the enemy appeared in force about 600 yards east of the town, variously estimated from 125 to 400 strong. They sent in a flag of truce with a demand to surrender, of which the following is a copy:

JULY 21, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER AT PLATTSBURG:

I hereby demand an immediate surrender of the town. We are not bushwhackers, but Confederate soldiers. Your men will be treated as prisoners of war.

JOHN THRAILKILL,
Major, Commanding Confederate Forces.

To which I replied in the following:

PLATTSBURG, *July 21, 1864.*

Maj. JOHN THRAILKILL:

SIR: We are not here for the purpose of surrendering, but to defend the flag of our country.

B. F. POE,
Captain, Commanding Post.

The messenger started with the reply and was fired upon. At the same time a fight occurred between Captain Turney and the enemy. A messenger at that instant came in with word that Captain Turney was cut off, and for every man to take care of himself. After examining our ammunition it was found to be scarce, not sufficient to fight any length of time; whereupon I ordered a retreat, which had commenced, when Lieutenant McCullough came in with his force bearing the dead body of Captain Turney. Lieutenant McCullough and myself then determined to hold the place with what soldiers we had left and the citizens. A second messenger was dispatched to the enemy, but fired upon. Lieutenants Pierce and B. F. McCullough and most of the men had left when Turney's men came in. Our loss, Captain Turney killed and James Nixon wounded severely. The enemy had retreated in the direction of Haynesville. We do not know that we killed any of the enemy.

B. F. POE,
Captain, Commanding Post at Plattsburg.

[General FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri.]

No. 11.

Report of Capt. Edward P. Elmer, Second Colorado Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS STATION,
Pleasant Hill, Mo., August 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor herewith to transmit the following supplementary report of scouting and escort done by Company K, Second Colorado Cavalry stationed at Pleasant Hill, Mo., since July 10, 1864:

Sergeant Cotton and thirty-four men of Company K, Second Colorado Cavalry, left this station July 11 for Kansas City, with six-mule team, ten days' rations, with detachments of C, F, and I of Second

Colorado Cavalry, under command of Major Smith. Arrived at Kansas City July 12; distance, thirty-five miles. Left Kansas City on the 13th in the steamer Emily. Arrived at Weston 12 m.; distance, forty-two miles. Lieutenant Parsons, of D Company, took command of the detachment; left same day. Arrived at Camden Point 4 p. m.; distance, twelve miles. Found the enemy there; had a fight with them; killed several, and completely routed them. Lost 1 man killed, 1 wounded. Pursued them about one mile with the command; then leaving it and pursuing the enemy about ten miles, went into camp for the night. Broke camp at daylight 14th. Arrived at Smithville; distance, four miles; fed. Left about 7 a. m., returning back to Camden Point, scouting through the brush; distance, fifteen miles. From there went to Platte City; distance, ten miles. There joined the command and remained there until the next morning. Broke camp the next morning at daylight, taking southerly direction. About 1 p. m. stopped and fed. Left the command there; went to Kansas City, escort for Colonel Ford: distance, thirty-five miles. Left Kansas City on the morning of the 16th. Arrived at Liberty about noon; distance, sixteen miles. Camped there until the next day. Left for Kansas City on the 17th with Colonel Ford; distance, sixteen miles. Left on the 18th for Liberty; distance, sixteen miles. Left on the 22d with the whole command, taking a northerly direction, arriving at Union Mills; distance, thirty-six miles; fed; moved on about three miles; went into camp. Left 23d, taking a westerly course, meeting a command of Enrolled Missouri Militia. Passed Camden Point, taking a southeasterly direction. Went into camp about 5 p. m.; distance, fifty miles. Broke camp about daylight on 24th; passed through Smithville in a southerly direction after traveling about thirty-five miles, there leaving the transportation and taking the enemy's trail. After following about twelve miles stopped and fed. A party of men were out foraging, and they ran onto the enemy's pickets. Fired on them and killed 1; the command then pursuing and overtaking them, completely routed them, killing 2 of them; then went into camp about sundown; distance, fifteen miles. 25th, broke camp about sunrise, taking a southerly direction, arriving at Liberty about 1 p. m. Camped there for the night; distance, twenty miles. 26th, broke camp at daylight. Arrived at Kansas City 6 a. m.; distance, sixteen miles. Left on the 27th for Pleasant Hill; distance, thirty-five miles.

July 21, Sergeant Wright and six men on a scout to Sni Hills and vicinity. Saw plenty of signs of bushwhackers. Returned on the 22d; distance traveled, forty miles. On the 27th Sergeant Weir and nine men went to Kansas City for commissary stores. Returned on 31st; distance, thirty-five miles. Whole distance about 495 miles.

Your most obedient servant,

E. P. ELMER,
Captain, Commanding Station.

Capt. J. H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 12.

Report of Lieut. Henry F. Goss, Eighty-seventh Enrolled Missouri Militia.

SAINT JOSEPH, *July 20, 1864.*

I have to report that on yesterday, in charge of a scouting party sent out by your orders, I proceeded to the neighborhood of Taos, and

also near De Kalb, in Buchanan County. About one mile and a half from Taos and between that place and De Kalb, along the margin of a creek, in Murphy's pasture, we discovered camp-fires and obtained information from different reliable men in the neighborhood that there were not less than 300 rebels in the brush there. This camp is about fifteen miles from Saint Joseph. We captured one prisoner going toward said camp. He was armed and had clothes packed in saddle-bags. We also captured one stud-horse belonging to a man formerly of Captain Noland's company of Paw Paws, named Outs, and who was recently engaged in shooting a German near Sparta. We took two U. S. muskets from the houses of two men of Noland's company, now in the brush. The bushwhackers seem to have possession of the lower part of this county and in Taos and along the main roads every day. In going and returning we traveled thirty miles and reached this post about 12 o'clock last night. The men in the country appear to be nearly all gone. We only saw five or six on the whole route.

HENRY F. GOSS,
First Lieutenant Company H, Commanding Scouts.

Brigadier-General FISK.

JULY 8, 1864.—Skirmish near Richmond, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH MISSOURI,
Saint Joseph, Mo., July 19, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that Capt. D. P. Whitmer, commanding company of Enrolled Missouri Militia, at Richmond, transmits to me an account of an affair between a portion of his company and the guerrillas, on the 8th instant. Lieutenant Page, of his company, fell in with a party and immediately charged them with his whole command. They received a volley, which resulted in the death of Lieutenant Page and the severe wounding of Orderly Sergeant Goode and two men, together with the death of five horses. Sergeant Goode, in spite of his wounds, three in number, took command of the platoon after the death of Lieutenant Page, and routed the enemy completely, scattering him and capturing some of his horses and some equipments. It is not known how many of the enemy were killed. From the money and papers found in the clothing captured, it is certain that these men are from Price's army. Lieutenant Page was buried with military honors at Richmond on the 9th. Much credit is due to all parties who participated in the affair.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier General of Vols., Comdg. Dist. of North Missouri.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of the Missouri, Saint Louis, Mo.

JULY 8–12, 1864.—Scout from Patterson to Buffalo Creek, in Ripley County, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Warren C. Shattuck, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

PATTERSON, MO., *July 12, 1864.*

SIR: In obedience to orders I started from this post on the 8th instant upon a scout to Buffalo Creek, Ripley County, with twenty-five men. We marched by way of Moss Ferry, on Black River, and Van Buren, on Current River, thence in the direction of Pocahontas, Ark., to the head of Big Baum Creek and down the same to Current River; down Current River to the mouth of Buffalo, and up the same ten miles to the house of one John Land, a noted guerrilla, who was found lurking in the vicinity and was shot. We started from Land's and came through the country, traveling by paths to Shelton's Mills, on Current River, and from there to Patterson. On Brush Creek, in Centre County, we came upon two guerrillas, who were shot while attempting to make their escape. We found no enemy in force nor heard of none nearer than Jacksonport, except small parties of guerrillas. All men subject to military duty are ordered to report to the Southern army, and many are obeying the order. From the information I obtained the conscripts are sent to Jacksonport, whence they are to return to Missouri as soon as they are armed and organized. Forage can be obtained at a few points on the route. Corn crop looks fine. Result of scout, 3 jayhawkers shot, 3 horses and 9 head of beef-cattle brought in.

I remain, major, your most obedient servant,

W. C. SHATTUCK,
Second Lieutenant Company I, Third Missouri State Militia.

Maj. JAMES WILSON,
Commanding Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

JULY 9–13, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Wellington, Mo., with skirmishes at Warder's Church (10th), and at Columbus, Johnson County (12th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, commanding District of Central Missouri.
No. 2.—Col. John F. Philips, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

WARRENSBURG, *July 14, 1864.*

I have the honor to report that a detachment of Major Houts' scouting party, commanded by Captain Henslee, killed 5 guerrillas at a church near Wellington on Sunday last, among them the notorious Wilhite, who has been engaged in robbing the mails and

people in La Fayette County. Wilhite led the party who attacked Judge Ryland and his son and was repulsed a short time since, and is the man who wounded Captain Ewing, of the citizen guards. The party of guerrillas were attending church and fired upon Captain Henslee's advance guard from the windows, when a general exchange of shots [took place] in the midst of citizens, women, and children, and yet while Wilhite had twenty-eight balls through him and in him, and another guerrilla eighteen, no person but the guerrillas was hit by our men. We had 1 man wounded and 2 horses killed. The guerrillas, people, and priest seemed to be worshiping together as innocent lambs.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Col. John F. Philips, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. SEVENTH CAVALRY MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Camp Grover, near Warrensburg, Mo., July 14, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to orders received through sub-district headquarters, on the night of the 9th instant I sent Major Houts, of my command, with 150 men, northwest of this place, with instructions to scout the country thoroughly. They went twenty-five miles, and then turning north struck the Missouri River at Wellington. In this march they discovered abundant signs of the presence of guerrillas. This country is a safe covert for these outlaws. It is a complete jungle and a perfect solitude, the adjacent country to the Sni affording forage and rations. Arriving at Wellington about 10 a. m. on Sunday morning, Major Houts learned from a reliable contraband that two guerrillas had been in this town that morning, and her opinion was they had gone to a church—Warder's Church—distant two miles, where a Hardshell was in the habit of preaching to the "Brushers" the unsearchable riches of good whisky and guerrilla warfare. The major, with accustomed promptness, at once detached about fifty men, under command of the intrepid and cool-headed Captain Henslee, Company L, and sent him to this church. The force approached this church very stealthily. It is situated on a high eminence, a bluff overlooking the Sni River. The command had to reach this church by a narrow road, having to cross a bridge within twenty paces of the building and ascend a very abrupt bank. The captain took the precaution to send forward Sergeant Brassfield with six men, with instructions to dash at all hazards over this bridge up the hill, and passing the church to occupy a position beyond, with a view of intercepting fugitives, and at the same time, by attracting the attention of the congregation, to make a diversion in favor of the main column. The guerrillas were then seven or eight in number, besides some outpost pickets on the Lexington road. The cry of "Feds!" "Feds!" thundered from the audience, and the worthy pastor, who was in the midst of a fervent supplication, found his flock

greatly demoralized, and concluded it wasn't worth while to pray any longer under the circumstances. The guerrillas were on the alert, some at their horses, some in the church, and one, who was to be married—perhaps that very day—to the pastor's daughter, was standing at the window, making love to his inamorata. The guerrillas as quick as thought saw their peril, and with drawn revolvers they began earnest work, with a nerve and determination worthy of a better cause. The captain's whole force was thrown into the work. The women and children screamed with terror, and, rushing wildly from the church, exhibited a method in their madness by throwing themselves in front of the rebel outlaws. Captain H., whose presence of mind is equaled only by his gallantry, rode out and commanded the women to "squat." They obeyed the summons, and the work of death went bravely on. Five bushwhackers were killed outright, the sixth mortally wounded, and one or two, despite all vigilance, made their escape amid the furore and confusion. Wilhite and Estes were numbered among the slain. These were noted and desperate fellows, and their crimes are as black and infamous as they are numerous. Two of the enemy's horses were killed and some wounded. Two horses and equipments were captured by us; five or six Colt navy revolvers. One man, Corporal Cozad, Company L, was wounded in heel and left at Lexington. One horse and equipments lost, belonging to Private James D. Barnes, Company D.

Justice to merit requires me to mention the names of Privates John T. Anderson, Company L, and James D. Barnes, Company D. Anderson was one of the advance who passed by the church. He received three shots through his clothes, one knocking the skin off his nose and one striking the pistol in his hand. He rode right in the midst of the scoundrels, and with great coolness and precision shot right and left, emptying twelve barrels and loading four more, all the while directing the movements of other soldiers around him. Anderson was badly wounded a year ago in a hand to hand fight with Livingston, in Southwest Missouri. Barnes, discovering one of the bushwhackers making his escape, singled him out, charged on him, discharging his rifle flung it aside, and with drawn pistol spurred forward, chasing for half a mile the rebel who was firing back at him; Barnes holding his fire until he drew up on his game, was just in the act of shooting at short range when his horse fell headlong, precipitating the rider over his head with a fearful fall. The horse recovered and ran away after the guerrilla, carrying equipments, &c., all of which was the private property of the soldier, and is lost. Barnes is a mere boy and quite small, but is as bold and dashing a trooper as ever looked an enemy in the face.

From Wellington, Major Houts scoured the country to Lexington, from there to Columbus, Johnson County. Here he ran onto six or seven guerrillas who fled at first fire, and being well mounted, and our horses greatly jaded, they outran us and escaped. The command returned to camp yesterday, 13th instant. Number of miles traveled, 175.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. F. PHILLIPS,

Colonel Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Capt. JAMES H. STEGER,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Central Missouri.

JULY 13, 1864.—Skirmish near Brownsville, Ark.

Reports of Col. Oliver Wood, Twenty-second Ohio Infantry.

BROWNSVILLE, *July 13, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

The rebels, supposed to be 150 strong, attacked our pickets just now. We have driven them off. My force is so small that I do not like to venture beyond our defenses. This may only be the advance of a larger force.

O. WOOD,
Colonel.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BROWNSVILLE, *July 14, 1864—5.45 p. m.*

I followed the rebel force that attacked me last night to near Snake Island, about fifteen miles from here, in a southeasterly direction, where they divided in small squads and took different directions. I did not deem it advisable to pursue too far with the force under my command. I do not know what force the rebels belong to. One of my vedettes lost his horse, saddle, and bridle. We captured five guns from them. The detachment of Tenth Illinois Cavalry has just arrived. Captain Wilson will report his disaster to you.

O. WOOD,
Colonel.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JULY 13, 1864.—Reconnaissance from Pine Bluff, Ark.

Report of Col. Powell Clayton, Fifth Kansas Cavalry.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *July 14, 1864—9 a. m.*

I made a reconnaissance down the river yesterday with 600 cavalry and 400 infantry, and five pieces of the Sigel artillery, attached to the cavalry regiment. Went fifteen miles down the river, at which point I found Crawford's brigade in line of battle in a very strong position. As my intention was simply to reconnoiter I did not deem it advisable to attack him. Not knowing what re-enforcements he might have in his rear, and my right flank and rear being very much exposed to a flank movement on his part, I endeavored by concealing my main force and showing but a small party in his front to draw him out of his position, and if possible lead him on to my infantry, which was posted under cover about seven miles in our rear. Failing in this, I sent for my train and had it loaded with forage during the night; returned early this morning. Fagan is at Douglass' plantation, about fifteen miles below where Crawford's brigade was yesterday. It is going to be very difficult for us to forage much more down the river. The only place that will be left for us will be upon the opposite side. I sent a dispatch to General Steele in reference to the expiration of the term of

service of three companies of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry. I have received no answer. Their terms have expired. There is no mustering officer here. What shall be done with them? Please have the general direct what field officers shall be mustered out with them.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Lieutenant-Colonel GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Arkansas.

(Same to Capt. C. H. Dyer, assistant adjutant-general, District of Little Rock.)

JULY 13–16, 1864.—Expedition from Helena, Ark., to Buck Island, in the Mississippi River.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Napoleon B. Buford, U. S. Army, commanding District of Eastern Arkansas.

No. 2.—Capt. Rudolph Schoenemann, Sixth Minnesota Infantry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Napoleon B. Buford, U. S. Army, commanding District of Eastern Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN ARKANSAS,
Helena, Ark., July 16, 1864.

DEAR SIR: I learned that the enemy had crossed arms into Arkansas at Buck Island. I sent a cavalry force to reconnoiter who have returned. They report 1,500 rifles and a large quantity of cartridges have been crossed and received by Shelby's men.

On the 14th artillery firing was heard for three hours on White River. I expect the river is, or soon will be, blockaded.

On the 8th instant I wrote the inclosed letter, not knowing to whom I could safely send it. You know the restrictions on military correspondence. I finally sent one copy to General Canby and one to General Hitchcock, who is my warm personal friend, and who is in the Secretary of War's office. Please take two minutes to tell me what you think of it.

Your friend,

N. B. BUFORD.

Major-General WASHBURN,
Commanding District of West Tennessee.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN ARKANSAS,
Helena, Ark., July 8, 1864.

Why do we continue to occupy the interior of Arkansas? What good has arisen from the occupation? Have the meeting of the convention and the Legislature at Little Rock restored the State to the Union? What harm has resulted? Has not the cost of maintaining the army in the interior been vastly beyond what it would have been on the banks of the Mississippi River? Have we not lost two gun-boats and several transports on the Arkansas River and one gun-boat on White River? Have we not lost three regiments, 700 wagons, 4,000 mules, 2,000 cav-

alry horses, 6 pieces of artillery, and 1,000,000 cartridges in the interior? Have we not established trade stores in the interior by which the enemy has been supplied with a vast amount of goods, thus affording opportunities for corrupt traders to supply the enemy with the means of carrying on the war? Would not the maintenance of four fortified positions on the river and a strict blockade, preventing the enemy from getting supplies, have accomplished greater results with about one-fourth the expenditure of men and means? I suggest the following disposition of troops in Arkansas:

First. A post should be fortified opposite Memphis to maintain dominion over the country and prevent the corrupt traders of Memphis from introducing a dollar's worth of merchandise into the interior. Second. Make Helena, which is partially fortified, the chief post and remove the seat of government to it, and drive out every secession sympathizer from the triangle formed by the Mississippi and White Rivers, and a line drawn from Devall's Bluff to Memphis; inaugurate the civil government under the new constitution and laws and extend the area as fast as possible. Third. A post should be fortified on the large island between the mouths of White and Arkansas Rivers. It would require but a small garrison if supported by two gun-boats to watch the enemy's attempts to cross either river. Two thousand freedmen could be employed on this island and be made self-supporting in cutting wood for steam-boats. Fourth. I would recommend that the fourth post be established near Columbia or Lakeport or in that vicinity, which would communicate as directly with Camden and Shreveport as Little Rock does with those places. Two of the islands, 63 and 66, in the river, are safely garrisoned by single companies of troops and afford protection for the wood-choppers, most of whom are freedmen. Other islands might be occupied in the same way.

Would not the navigation of the Mississippi River be much less liable to interruption by this distribution of the forces than by placing them in the interior? Has the possession of Little Rock prevented in the least degree the organization of the army of the rebels in the State? Would not the withdrawal of the troops from the interior to the banks of the Mississippi enable the fortified places to communicate with each other every twenty-four hours, and thus make the dominion of the river complete?

The season is approaching when the Arkansas and White Rivers become unnavigable. The maintenance of the overland communication from Helena to Little Rock requires the crossing of Big Creek, White, and Arkansas, and innumerable small streams and cypress swamps.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Rudolph Schoenemann, Sixth Minnesota Infantry.

CAMP BUFORD, *Near Helena, Ark., July 16, 1864.*

GENERAL: Having received verbal orders from you to procure all the information practicable concerning certain Confederate forces alleged to have crossed the Mississippi River at or near Buck Island, I left this town on the evening of the 13th instant, on the steamer Dove, accompanying a force composed of Companies E and F, of the Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and ——— of the Fifteenth Illinois Cav-

alry. Of the proceedings of the expedition whilst under my command I have herewith the honor to make the following report:

Early in the morning of the 14th the cavalry disembarked at Doctor Peterson's place on this side of the river and I assumed command of the remaining force and continued up the river as far as Buck Island. The island was examined and also both banks of the river in its neighborhood and immediately below. I was informed by residents on the Tennessee shore that twelve wagon-loads of arms and ammunition were ferried across the river to the opposite shore, from Wednesday morning to Saturday night of the preceding week, and that said train was protected by about seventy cavalry, under command of Captain Graham. On the west bank additional information was received that there was a force on that side amounting to 500 to 1,000 men, as variously estimated by the inhabitants spoken with by me, under command of Colonel McGill, to supply which force the ammunition was taken over. They said that the stores were ferried over in small boats, subsequently destroyed by a gun-boat from Memphis, and that, in order to keep the crossing as secret as possible, the rebels had strict orders not to fire upon any of the steam-boats passing up and down the river. I found on the Arkansas side some empty ammunition-boxes (of U. S. manufacture), which from the marks had contained No. .58 elongated and No. .69 round ball cartridges. Also, below Buck Island, on the eastern shore, in searching for arms I found an old rifle and ammunition bag with C. S. belt, and a butcher knife, in possession of a man named Bennett, all of which articles were delivered to your office.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. SCHOENEMANN,
Company E, Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry.

Brig. Gen. N. B. BUFORD,
Comdg. District of Eastern Arkansas, Helena, Ark.

JULY 14, 1864.—Skirmish near Bloomfield, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. John T. Burris, Tenth Kansas Infantry.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, *July 15, 1864.*

Skirmishing occurred yesterday evening near Bloomfield between a detachment of Second Cavalry Missouri State Militia and of the Enrolled Militia on one side and a band of bushwhackers on the other. One man of the Enrolled Militia was killed, and 1 of the Second Cavalry Missouri State Militia slightly wounded. They wounded 1 mortally, and slightly wounded 2 others, and captured 3 splendid horses and horse equipments.

JOHN T. BURRIS,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS EWING.

JULY 15, 1864.—Affair at Lindley, Grundy County, Mo.

Report of Maj. Rezin A. De Bolt.

TRENTON, MO., *July 18, 1864.*

DEAR SIR: On the morning of the 15th instant a party of bushwhackers, numbering twenty-seven, came into the little town of Lindley, in

this county, and robbed the citizens of money, horses, guns, and pistols. They were pursued by Capt. E. L. Winters with what men he could hastily collect, and overtaken some eight miles from the place robbed. A fight ensued, in which 5 of Captain Winters' men were wounded. The bushwhackers again fled. The captain overhauled them again in the afternoon and fought them, in which he had 1 man killed and 1 mortally wounded. The bushwhackers were all well armed, with from two to four revolvers and one and two shotguns each. Our men were but poorly armed and were scarce of ammunition. How long, oh, how long must we suffer with these fiends in human shape? If the loyal Enrolled Missouri Militia were armed they would soon stop this bushwhacking. Why this is not done I cannot imagine. We need help, and we look to those in power to furnish it, and if aid is not furnished soon I fear the loyal men will take the matter in their own hands. Then, I fear, they would violate the orders of Provost-Marshal McIlwrath, who, I fear, is not thoroughly loyal to the core; at least, he acts very favorable to rebels, as I am informed.

Hoping that aid to loyal men will soon be furnished,

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. A. DE BOLT,

Chairman of County Com. of Safety for Grundy County, Mo.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK,

Saint Joseph, Mo.

JULY 17–18, 1864.—Expedition from Baton Rouge to Davison's Ford, near Clinton, La.

Report of Col. John G. Fonda, One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, Cavalry Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
Baton Rouge, July 19, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the afternoon of the 17th instant I left camp with 400 men and proceeded toward the Comite River by the Greenwell Springs road. I crossed the Comite at Roberts' Ford. At about one mile beyond the ford my advance met a wagon loaded with cotton and guarded by a rebel soldier, who was shot in attempting to escape. The cotton was sent to camp. I moved on from this place to Burlington on the Amite River, where a party that I had sent to a ferry captured 4 men who were floating cotton down the river. From here I continued on in the direction of Clinton to near Davison's Ford. In order to deceive the inhabitants with regard to my movements, I turned back from this point and camped at Burlington. At daylight I sent a force of about seventy men to Davison's Ford, and two hours after I put another party over the river at Burlington to co-operate with the first party, which had orders to come down on the east side of the river. At 11.30 a. m. both parties returned to Burlington. They had encountered a small rebel force and killed 1 and captured 5. As soon as this party could be ferried across the river I started for camp, where I arrived at 5.30 p. m. yesterday. On my way in I learned that a quantity of cotton was deposited at the house of one Graham, and that it was a part of the same lot which I found the

night before guarded by a rebel soldier. I brought five bales of it in, which, with eight bales sent in before, has been turned over to the post quartermaster. The parties taken with the cotton at Burlington proved to be persons who had taken the oath of allegiance to the United States, and by direction of the provost-marshal were set at liberty and their cotton restored to them. Two rebels have been killed, 7 prisoners and 10 horses captured. Two of my men were wounded.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN G. FONDA,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. GEORGE W. STEIN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

HDQRS. U. S. FORCES, DISTRICT OF BATON ROUGE,
Baton Rouge, La., August 6, 1864.

Capt. J. SCHUYLER CROSBY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am in receipt of your communication in relation to the cotton captured by Colonel Fonda, and in reply would most respectfully state that Colonel Fonda turned over the cotton referred to in his report to Capt. B. F. Porter, post assistant quartermaster, subject to my orders; since then I have ordered the cotton to be turned over to Mr. Hyde, treasury agent. The provost-marshal had never anything to do with it, one way or the other.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

W. P. BENTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

JULY 17–28, 1864.—Scout on the South Platte River, Colo. Ter.

Report of Capt. George L. Sanborn, First Colorado Cavalry.

CAMP SANBORN, COLO. TER., *July 28, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor herewith to send you a report of the movements of my command during the past twelve days:

On the 17th of this month some Indians attempted to steal some horses from emigrants who were camped near this place. I immediately detailed twenty men to go in pursuit of them. When about ready to start a messenger arrived from Bijou Ranch with the intelligence that Indians were committing depredations at that place. Ordered Lieutenant Chase to take twenty men and go to that place, find their trail, and follow them. I took the first detail out myself, and although we traveled very fast, could not succeed in overtaking them. Returned to Camp Robbins, and next day, taking four days' rations, I started with forty men for headwaters of Bijou and Beaver Creeks, with the intention of intercepting the Indians on their way to Republican, but failed to find any, so went down Beaver Creek to Platte, and thence to Junction Ranch, where I found Lieutenant Chase with his command. In the meantime, Lieutenant Chase, with his command of twenty men, proceeded to Bijou Ranch, where he found that 2 men had been killed and 1 wounded and considerable stock stolen. From there he went to

Junction Station, where he found that all of the stage company's stock, together with 6 head of emigrants' stock, had been stolen. From there he went to Junction Ranch, where he found that the Indians had stolen all of Mr. Reynolds' stock, amounting to 50 or 60 head. From there to Murray's, where all of the stock, cattle, and horses, had been driven off. He reached Murray's at daybreak on the morning of the 18th. From there he went into the bluffs, found the trail, followed it, overtook the Indians camped on Beaver Creek, about twenty-five miles from Murray's, at 10 a. m. July 18. He recovered the stock—125 head. There were but five Indians with the stock, and of these he succeeded in wounding 2; but owing to the fact that the horses were nearly tired out with the previous sixteen hours' hard traveling, he was unable to overtake them, they being mounted on good horses. He returned to Junction Ranch, where I found him. From that place I started with forty men and scouted through the country south of Platte and east of Beaver Creek, but failed to find Indians. Number of Indians, as estimated by Lieutenant Chase and Mr. Granville Ashcraft (the guide), 150; number of emigrants killed, 5; wounded, 1. Finding that the Indians had left the river I returned to this camp.

I am, sir, with much respect, your obedient servant,

GEO. L. SANBORN,
Captain, First Cavalry of Colorado.

Col. J. M. CHIVINGTON.

JULY 18–21, 1864.—Scout in Shannon County, Mo.

Report of Capt. Levi E. Whybark, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACH. FIFTH CAV. MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Salem, Mo., July 22, 1864.

SIR: I just returned from down in Shannon County. I started Monday night with sixty men to capture some bushwhackers reported to be on Rock Creek, about sixty-five miles from Salem, or at what is known as the Hay Hollow, in the southeast corner of Shannon County, where they were herding their stolen horses. I traveled all night Monday night. Tuesday I got to the place about 2 o'clock, but they had left a few days previous with their stock. They left some eight young horses which they could not get off with, which we brought in. They were stolen from Union men in this county, which I gave to them. I then camped and scouted around there until morning. Found no rebels, but plenty of signs. Wednesday morning I divided my men in three squads; sent one squad up Jack's Fork and Current and Gladden Valley, under Sergeant Neff; one squad up Current to the mouth of Big Sinking, then up it to the head, under Lieutenant Ringer. I and Lieutenant Fisher took the other squad, coming up Brushy Creek and then Big Creek to the head. I camped Wednesday night on head of Big Creek. There I heard fourteen rebels had passed up the evening before. We camped in a meadow. About 1 o'clock some dozen or so came on us. Would not make themselves known. We fired a few rounds into them and they scattered in every direction, leaving four horses and equipments, and their arms. The brush was so thick and it dark we did not kill any. Next morning, Thursday, I followed on the divide in the southeast corner of Dent County, some twenty-five miles from Salem. There I

came across some twenty of the Third Missouri State Militia from Centreville. They were dressed every way; some with citizen hats and in their shirt-sleeves. I took them to be bushwhackers; did not fire on them. They discovered us and halted. We called on them. They soon saw we were Federals, as we were all in full uniform. I formed within thirty yards of them before they discovered me. I halted and made one advance; found they were all right. They were under command of a lieutenant, and had sent ten men on Big Creek and they were the ones we fired on. I turned over the horses and equipments to him, as they were his company. So it all was a mistake, but was in the fault of the commander of the squad, as they could know who we were. The best and reliable information of Freeman is he was on Ash Flat himself. One hundred of his men were on the Warm Fork of Spring River; the rest of his command on the North Fork of White River. Shelby is with Marmaduke. Freeman's is the only force I could hear of, and McCray was some place close to Batesville, and had some men on Seven Point conscripting. There is no large force near the line that I could hear of, though the women told us Shelby was in that county with 10,000 men, in order to get us away, but all stuff. Plenty bushwhackers on Jack's Fork. The citizens that live there say there are more in that county now than has been since the war. Fine crops of corn on Current River and Jack's Fork. Most of the men have been at home and made their crops and now all gone off with Freeman. I will endeavor to keep you posted in regard to any rebel force.

Respectfully,

L. E. WHYBARK,
Captain, Commanding Detachment.

Colonel SIGEL.

JULY 18–23, 1864.—Operations in Southwest Missouri, with skirmishes near Maysville, Ark. (20th), and near Carthage, Mo. (21st).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.—Col. John D. Allen, Seventh Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia.

No. 3.—Capt. James L. Powell, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *July 29, 1864.*

A portion of Captain Turner's company, stationed at Hartsville, attacked twenty-five bushwhackers going north last week and killed 6 of them and captured all of their horse equipments. Captain Sallee's company in Douglass attacked a band of about thirty the first of the week and killed 14 of them and captured some horses. Captain Rohrer killed 4 bushwhackers on Cane Creek the first of the week, and the troops at Neosho and Carthage have killed 4 during the week. Colonel Pickler and 6 of his men were killed by a detachment of the First Arkansas in Benton County last week. Brown's forces and Pickler's then moved north to Baxter Springs, and about sixty of their men came into the vicinity of Carthage and attacked about nineteen of the Enrolled Missouri Militia while herding their horses, and the militia

being surprised lost 6 men killed and 11 were taken prisoners, and afterward released. Everything is quiet except these incursions on the extreme borders of the district. Shelby's headquarters were below Jacksonport five days ago.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the District of Southwest Missouri, commanded by Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army.**

Capt. James L. Powell, Second Arkansas Cavalry, commanding detachment of twenty-five men same regiment, made a scout in the direction of Maysville, Ark.; came in contact with a small band of guerrillas; killed 2 and wounded 1 of them; casualties to the detachment, 1 man missing; returned 23d instant.

July 21.—One officer and 5 men of Enrolled Missouri Militia killed in a skirmish with guerrillas near Carthage, Mo. Numbers of bushwhackers have been killed by the Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia during the month. Companies B, C, D, and H, Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, mustered into the United States service for twenty months, as per Special Orders, No. 166, current series, Department of the Missouri. These companies muster from 82 to 100 men each. The district has been remarkably quiet during the month, except the eastern and western portions, which have been disturbed to some extent by bands of guerrillas. The duty of the troops has been escorting trains, and scouting and garrisoning the several posts and stations.

No. 2.

Report of Col. John D. Allen, Seventh Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. 7TH PROV. REGT. ENROLLED MISSOURI MILITIA,
Mount Vernon, Mo., July 21, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: From information received from below, which I think reliable, there are about 400 rebels at Baxter Springs. There were about 125, under command of Captain Rusk, attacked Lieutenant Henry (of Captain Stevenson's company of militia) with twenty-five men within 300 yards of Carthage while he was out grazing his stock. They killed Lieutenant Henry with 8 of his men on the ground and several others are missing, no doubt killed. The rebels were too strong for the company at Carthage, and they did not come out of the fort. I immediately sent thirty men from Cave Spring to re-enforce Carthage, and on yesterday morning sent Captain Roberts with twenty men to Cave Spring, and to scout the country; there is a force of rebels in that country, no doubt. I have not men enough to send out against anything of a large force and hold the posts. Captain Sutherland will get to Carthage about to-morrow evening; that will relieve the post considerably. If I had men enough I would take a scout in the vicinity of Baxter Springs. There should be a scout of about 200 or 300 men sent

* From monthly return.

in there to be of any effect. The rebels have no doubt concentrated at Baxter Springs. I would be glad if you would send me about 200 men immediately, and, with what men I can get, will clean out that country.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN D. ALLEN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Lieut. W. D. HUBBARD.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. James L. Powell, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

CAMP PHELPS,
Near Cassville, Mo., July 22, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to Special Orders, No. 30, dated headquarters Post Cassville, July 18, 1864, in charge of a detachment of twenty-five men of the Second Arkansas Cavalry as escort to Lieutenant Burns, First Arkansas Infantry, I proceeded to Fayetteville, Ark., being re-enforced by a detachment of eighteen men of the First Arkansas Cavalry. I left Fayetteville on the 20th instant and marched twenty-two miles in the direction of Maysville, Ark., via Brown's Mills, thence east nine miles, where I encountered about nine rebels, whom I dispersed, killing 2 and wounding 1, who made his escape. I then halted and fed with the intention of giving my horses and men some rest. But at about 9 o'clock I learned that a large force of rebels were advancing upon my camp with the intention of surprising me. Satisfied that their force was largely superior to mine, I did not deem it prudent to wait there until daylight. I accordingly cautiously withdrew my men and retired, reaching Cassville, Mo., July 22, 1864, without loss or injury to my command, except one man missing, whom I suspect went to the enemy.

I have the honor to be, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES L. POWELL,
Captain Company F, Second Arkansas Cavalry.

Lieut. Col. HUGH CAMERON,
Commanding Post of Cassville.

JULY 18–AUGUST 6, 1864.—Operations in Southeast Missouri and Northeastern Arkansas, with skirmishes at Scatterville, Ark. (July 28), at Osceola, Ark. (August 2), and at Elk Chute, Mo. (August 4).

REPORTS, ETC.

No. 1.—Itinerary of the District of Saint Louis, commanded by Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing, jr., U. S. Army.

No. 2.—Lieut. Col. John T. Burris, Tenth Kansas Infantry.

No. 1.

*Itinerary of the District of Saint Louis, commanded by Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing, jr., U. S. Army.**

Lieut. Col. J. T. Burris, Tenth Kansas Volunteers, in command of about 500 troops, returned on the 7th instant from an expedition down

* From monthly return.

into Arkansas, having been out seventeen days; had a brisk fight at Osceola, Ark., with Bowen's and McVeigh's companies, of Shelby's command, capturing their camps; killed 7; took 25 prisoners (Confederates), including Captain Bowen.

August 4.—Fought the Second Missouri Confederate Cavalry under Conyers and Guthrie, also Darnelle's guerrillas, all under the rebel Colonel Cowen, routing them completely, killing and mortally wounding about 30; slightly wounding between 30 and 40, and took 28 prisoners. Our loss, Captain Francis, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry, killed, and 2 slightly wounded. Result of the expedition: 50 killed, including 1 captain, 3 lieutenants; wounded, 40; took 57 prisoners, 2 captains, 200 stand of small-arms, and 200 horses and mules.

No. 2.

Reports of Lieut. Col. John T. Burris, Tenth Kansas Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND SUB-DISTRICT,
In the Field, New Madrid, Mo., July 21, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the north half of this county and south half of Mississippi County have been very thoroughly scouted during the last week by parties from this post, commanded respectively by Captains Preuitt, Edwards, and Vincent, and Lieutenants Burnett, Ralph, and Hodges. No considerable force of guerrillas have been found or heard of in this region, but several small parties whose principal business seemed to be stealing horses and secreting them in the swamps and herding them in the caneries preparatory to their transfer to the rebels southwest have been surprised and routed and their horses captured. The scouting party under Captain Edwards, which left here on the night of the 18th instant, returned last evening, having killed 2 bushwhackers near James' Bayou, in Mississippi County, and captured and brought in a lot of horses which they were herding in the canebrake of that vicinity. The party under Lieutenant Burnett were kindly furnished transportation on board the gun-boat Huntress, No. 58, by its gentlemanly and patriotic commander, Captain Dennis. Lieutenant Burnett landed with his detachment on Island No. 8 on the 18th instant, and moved down the island on foot. He came upon a herd of horses, most of which had been stolen or forcibly taken by guerrillas on this side, and swam across onto the island, where three members of the bushwhacking fraternity were guarding them. The bushwhackers escaped, but 18 horses were captured. In the evening the detachment with the horses captured re-embarked on board the gun-boat near the foot of the island and arrived here the same night. The aggregate result of the several movements is 2 bushwhackers killed and 42 horses and mules captured and turned over to the quartermaster here.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN T. BURRIS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Sub-District.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS EWING, Jr.,
Commanding Saint Louis District, Saint Louis, Mo.

NEW MADRID, MO., *August 7, 1864.*

Have been out seventeen days with a battalion of the Second Cavalry Missouri State Militia, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hiller; detachments of the Second and Third, under Major Wilson, and of the First and Sixth Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, under Captain Preuitt. Have skirmished with guerrillas and bushwhackers in Mississippi, Stoddard, New Madrid, Pemiscot, and Dunklin Counties, Mo., and Greene and Mississippi Counties, Ark., killing considerable numbers of them. Had quite a brisk running fight at Osceola, Ark., on the 2d instant, with Bowen's and McVeigh's companies, of Shelby's command. We captured their camp, killed 7, and took 25 prisoners, including Captain Bowen, their commander. On the 4th, at Elk Chute, we fought the Second Missouri (rebel) Cavalry and Conyers', Guthrie's, and Darnelle's bands of guerrillas, all under command of Colonel Cowen. We routed them completely, killed and mortally wounded about 30, slightly wounded (who escaped in the swamps as I am informed by prisoners subsequently captured) between 30 and 40, and took 28 prisoners. We lost Captain Francis, Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia, mortally wounded, and 2 others slightly wounded. We have killed in all full 50 rebel soldiers and bushwhackers, including 1 captain, 3 lieutenants; wounded between 30 and 40 that we know of, and took prisoners 57, including 2 captains. We also captured full 200 stand of arms and over 200 horses and mules.

JOHN T. BURRIS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Expedition.

Brigadier-General EWING.

HDQRS. SECOND SUB-DISTRICT, SAINT LOUIS DISTRICT,
Cape Girardeau, Mo., August 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 21st of July I moved from New Madrid, Mo., with a battalion of the Second Cavalry Missouri State Militia, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hiller, and a detachment of the First Cavalry Missouri Volunteers, commanded by Captain Preuitt. From the 21st to the 26th we were engaged in scouting the counties of New Madrid, Mississippi, and Stoddard. We routed several parties of bushwhackers during the time, killed 4 of their number, burned a distillery and a grocery at which they were accustomed to meet, and captured some arms and horses. Being joined at Bloomfield by Major Wilson, with a battalion of the Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and a squadron of the Sixth Cavalry Missouri Volunteers, we moved on different roads, in a southwesterly direction; crossed the Saint Francis River just below Chalk Bluff, and arrived at Scatterville, Ark., on the evening of the 28th. There we routed a rebel recruiting party, under Colonel Clark, and had a skirmish with Bolin's guerrillas. We killed 1 rebel lieutenant, took Captain Lineback prisoner, captured some arms and horses, and burned the houses, under cover of which the guerrillas had fired on my command. No casualties on our side, except the wounding of E. T. Jenkins, chief scout. On the 29th we moved to Brown's Ferry. On the 30th marched south through Clarkson and Kennett. On the 31st passed through Hornersville. On the 1st of August we marched through the swamps and along Big Lake, in a southerly direction. During the day we surprised a party of bushwhackers and thieves; captured some arms; recaptured some negroes and horses previously stolen by these marauders, and burned

five of their houses. On the 2d we marched through an almost continuous swamp for about twenty miles; struck the settlement near Osceola, Ark., late in the afternoon; soon after came upon a rebel picket, who, after firing, retreated. My advance, under command of Captain Preuitt, pursued, the whole command following up closely until we came upon a main rebel force of that vicinity, under Captains Bowen and McVeigh, when a general charge was made. The rebels fled. A running fight ensued, which was kept up for several miles until the enemy's forces were scattered in every direction. We killed 7, including a lieutenant, and took 25 prisoners, including Captain Bowen. We also captured a considerable number of arms and horses. No casualty on our side. August 3, marched north to the Chicasawba Settlement, crossed Pemiscot Bayou, and encamped in Cowskin Settlement. During the afternoon a scouting party, under Captain Edwards, surprised a party of the enemy and killed 2 of them, capturing their arms and horses. The same evening a foraging party killed 1 of Conyers' bushwhackers. August 4, marched at daylight. Soon came upon a rebel picket commanded by Lieutenant Hedges. The rebels fled, and were pursued by Lieutenant Hiller, commanding my advance guard, and Sergeant Wright's party of scouts. After a chase of two miles, Hedges was overtaken and killed. His men escaped. We pursued the enemy six miles across Dogskin Swamp, when we found him in line of battle in a dense forest, two miles south of Elk Chute, in Pemiscot County, Mo. I immediately formed my battalions in line and attacked him. Our first volley partially broke the rebel line, when I ordered a charge, which was made with spirit. The whole rebel force fell back in confusion. A running fight was kept up for two miles, through the swamp, among the trees, and over logs. The enemy several times succeeded in partially reforming their lines, but each time only to be driven back in greater confusion. The last effort of Colonel Erwin, the rebel commander, to rally his forces was within about 200 yards of the Chute; but the impetuosity of the charge of my battalions on their lines, the deadly fire poured into their ranks, and the exultant shouts of my pursuing forces were more than they could stand. They again fled precipitately, many of them rushing, panic-stricken, into the stream, some attempting to swim their horses across, others abandoning their horses and everything else, and seeking to save themselves by swimming, while the rebel colonel, with a portion of his terrified followers, suddenly turned to the right, and, scattering, soon hid themselves in the dense forest and almost impenetrable swamps of that region.

Our only loss in this engagement was Captain Francis, of the Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia, mortally wounded, and 2 enlisted men slightly wounded. The rebel loss was 30 killed, 6 mortally wounded, who fell into our hands, about 40 less severely wounded, who escaped, and 28 prisoners. Among the killed was a captain, and with the prisoners a lieutenant. On the morning of the 5th I had scouting parties out in every direction. They killed 2 guerrillas and took 2 of Erwin's men prisoners. On the same day marched to Gayoso, and on the 6th reached New Madrid without anything further of interest occurring. We killed in all 47, including 1 captain and 3 lieutenants, mortally wounded 6, not mortally about 40, and took prisoners 57, including 2 captains and 1 lieutenant. We captured upward of 200 stand of arms, including shotguns and common rifles, most of which, however, we were compelled to destroy for want of transportation. We captured, brought in, and turned over to the quartermaster 230 horses and mules. We also emancipated and brought with us near 20 colored

persons who were being held as slaves by rebel masters in Arkansas. Having started out without transportation of any kind, and almost without subsistence, both men and animals subsisted off the enemy. We have, I think, pretty effectually cleared out the guerrillas and punished their accomplices in the Second Sub-District, and seriously checked the operations of the raiders and recruiting parties from Shelby's command in Southeast Missouri and the adjoining counties of Arkansas.

It affords me pleasure to report, in conclusion, that the officers and enlisted men of my command, with scarcely an exception, behaved themselves throughout in the most gallant and soldierly manner. And in this connection justice compels me to mention especially Sergt. John R. Wright, Company G, First Cavalry Missouri Volunteers, whom I earnestly recommend to the proper authorities for promotion.

I remain, general, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN T. BURRIS,
Lieut. Col. Tenth Kansas Vols., Commanding Expedition.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS EWING, Jr.,
Commanding Saint Louis District, Saint Louis, Mo.

JULY 18–AUGUST 7, 1864.—Expedition to the Pinal Mountains, Ariz. Ter.

Report of Maj. Thomas J. Blakeney, First California Cavalry.

FORT GOODWIN, ARIZ. TER., *August 8, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command, consisting of Company E, Fifth Infantry California Volunteers, Captain Harrover; Company I, First Infantry New Mexico Volunteers, Captain Simpson, and detachment of Company E, First Cavalry California Volunteers, under Captain Wellman, since leaving this post, pursuant to Special Orders, No. 106, headquarters Apache Expedition, at 4 p. m. on the 18th of July:

First day, July 18.—The direction of march was west of north (the various camps, directions of march, courses of rivers, prominent peaks and mountains are indicated on the accompanying map,* which is respectfully submitted as a part of this report) to the Gila River, which was reached an hour before sunset; distance, three miles; road for the first mile sandy and heavy. At this point we halted until sundown, when we marched nine miles and made camp at midnight. Road fair; direction a little north of west. Grass, wood, and water convenient and plenty.

Second day, July 19.—Broke camp at sunset. Marched ten miles. Direction slightly north of west. Road rough and heavy. Compelled to haul the wagons across several arroyos by hand. Made camp at midnight 500 yards from the river-bank. Wood plenty. Grass of superior quality, enough for one day.

Third day, July 20.—Broke camp at sunset. Marched two miles and a half, direction northwest; the night being very dark, halted until daybreak.

Fourth day, July 21.—I moved to a more sheltered camp one mile below. Broke camp again at sunset. Marched three miles in a northwesterly direction to a well-covered camp. Grass, wood, and water abundant.

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* Not found as an inclosure.

Fifth day, July 22.—Captain Thayer encamped his command half a mile below me to-day. Sent out scouts to the north, west, and south to examine the country for Indian signs and prospect for a road across to the San Carlos. At 5 p. m. took up the line of march, the troops having three days' rations in their haversacks, across the peninsula formed by the great bend to the southward of the Rio Gila, a few miles east of where the Rio San Carlos empties into that stream, leaving Lieutenant Stockwell with guide and thirty men in charge of train, with instructions to bring it through to the point indicated in orders as the site for the depot by the most direct practicable route and with as little delay as possible.

Sixth day, July 23.—Reached Camp Rigg, on the San Carlos, at 2 a. m., having marched eight miles in a direction north of west until we reached that stream, then eight miles in a northerly direction. Immediately after making camp sent scouts up the valley to the corn-fields to ascertain whether or not Indians were about. These scouts returned, reporting finding no indications of Indians having visited the valley since the destruction of their crops by Captain Thayer.

Seventh day, July 24.—At 1 a. m. started out with detachment of fifteen men of Company E, First Cavalry California Volunteers, under Captain Wellman, and eleven men of Company E, Fifth Infantry California Volunteers, under Captain Harrover, all supplied with three days' cooked rations in haversacks, to surprise and attack a camp of Indians said to be at a spring ten miles west of the depot. Reached the spot an hour before daylight, but the Indians had been gone at least two weeks. Returned to camp by noon to await the arrival of the train with supplies with which to make scout to Pinal Creek. Sent express back to meet the train and ascertain the cause of its delay. Express returned at 10 p. m. and reported the train in camp on the San Carlos eight miles below Camp Rigg.

Eighth day, July 25.—Train arrived at 10 a. m. Sent five non-commissioned officers and twenty-five privates to the corn-fields to gather and bundle up the corn fodder preparatory to hauling it into camp for the animals when corraled at night; also sent five cavalrymen to scout down the stream for corn-fields. This party reported one field of corn about one acre in extent. It also had been visited and cut by Captain Thayer's command. Ordered rations for a sixteen days' scout put up, three days' of which to be cooked and carried by the men in their haversacks, the remainder to be packed on mules. Built corral for the safety of the herd. Had a load of corn fodder hauled into camp.

Ninth day, July 26.—Detachments from each of the companies were detailed to remain at Camp Rigg under command of Captain Wellman, who being sick was ordered to remain behind. Captain Simpson having applied for permission to accompany the scout was allowed to do so. At 4 p. m. left camp and marched to Jaycox's Spring, direction west; distance, eight miles. Made camp here at 9 p. m. Gave orders that no fires should be made until after we had reached the rancheria, on Pinal Creek, which I expected to accomplish before daylight on the 28th.

Tenth day, July 27.—Remained in camp at Jaycox's Spring, which is nothing but a tank of rain water, supply very limited, until 5 p. m., when we took up the line of march for Pinal Creek, expecting to reach that stream in eight hours' march, so as to make our dispositions to attack the rancheria at daybreak. Before leaving Jaycox's Spring I placed Lieutenant Mann, with a detachment, in charge of the pack train, with orders to take the train by another trail, not so direct, but

where he could find water in about twelve or fifteen miles, and come on into Pinal Creek with it the next day. The night was very dark and the trail difficult to follow. The guide, Mr. Jaycox having lost it several times, determined to take the direction and follow it without reference to the trail. At about 12 p. m., it being so dark we could scarcely see one another, we came upon a temporary camp of Indians situated in a deep ravine in the dividing ridge between the waters of Pinal and Mineral Creeks. They at once commenced making signals of danger; as the sequel shows, started an express immediately to their people on Pinal Creek. After having been discovered by this party, I determined that nothing would do but to go straight through to the settlement with the hope of getting there before the Indian messengers would, so as to inform them of our coming. We marched all night, and daybreak the next morning found us coming down into the Eastern Fork of Pinal Creek. At about sunrise we found water in tanks, which served much to refresh our men and animals, who were much worn by a heavy march over a rough and rocky country in the darkness of night and without a trail to follow. After having found this water I should have made camp and deferred my attack until the next day, were it not that our suspicions as to an Indian messenger having preceded us to the Campoodie to inform them of our approach, were confirmed by the discovery of the fresh tracks of two Apaches who were ahead of us not more than half an hour, and the assurance of the guide that the rancheria was only about three miles distance. Marched until 8.30 a. m. eleventh day, July 28, when, the men being literally worn out with fatigue, we halted for two hours, when we again proceeded down the creek and struck the upper spring at 12 m. No sooner had we reached this point than the Indians discovered and began yelling at us from the very tops of the high, rocky ridges bordering the creek. I ordered the cavalry, under Lieutenant Stockwell, to charge upon a little group of wickey-ups for the purpose of ascertaining if the Indians had been apprised of our coming in time to remove all their effects. Lieutenant Stockwell reported everything removed from these shanties. I then continued my march without paying any apparent attention to the Indians, who were entirely out of my reach, until I arrived at the old camping-ground of Colonel Woolsey's party, distance from Jaycox's Spring thirty miles. Here I halted and sent the infantry forward, under command of Captain Harrover, to the lower rancheria, with instructions to take possession of any property he might find there. Upon Captain Harrover's reaching the vicinity of this rancheria a white flag was hoisted by the Indians, and also one by Captain Harrover. The Indians at this point were also on the very tops of the rocky cliffs which overhang the valley. Very soon three Indians came down with a flag and expressed a desire to have a talk. One of them, a squaw, was brought to my quarters. I told her that I could not talk with every Indian individually. I wanted to talk to the whole tribe together with their chief. She went away pleased, and said she would bring the chief into my camp, and he would have all the tribe come in and they would give themselves up, as they did not want to fight with the whites. Six Indians were in camp, one or two at a time, during the day. They all expressed a desire to surrender, and said that they were aware that campaigns were being made against them from all sides.

"*Twelfth day, July 29.*—Lieutenant Mann arrived with pack train. Nine Indians altogether in camp to-day. Two or three the most that were in at any one time. Captain Harrover reported to me that Lieu-

tenant Mann had shown symptoms of insanity; imagined that he was followed by an Indian through camp, and that Mr. Parker, the guide, wanted to kill him. A young Indian came into camp this p. m. and said he wanted to live with us; said he wanted to be a white man, to have a hat, and boots, and clothes; said he had neither father nor mother, and that he wanted to go with us. He was about fourteen years of age and had a smart, intelligent look for an Indian. I allowed him to remain in camp and gave him all he wanted to eat. He seemed much pleased, but was not satisfied until I assured him that he should go with us when we left and stay with us while we remained there. To-night Lieutenant Mann was wandering through camp perfectly wild, and I was compelled to put him under guard for fear he might do some injury either to himself or some one else.

Thirteenth day, July 30.—Altogether about twenty Indians in camp to-day, six at one time. Had an interview with me. I think one of the number was the Chief Crooked Foot. He said he had just come from the east; that soldiers were hunting the Indians there; that they were being hunted from all sides; that they would be compelled to submit sooner or later, and that he was going to advise all to come in at once and give themselves up while they could save something. He said, as an evidence that the Indians living on Pinal Creek were not thieves, they had neither cattle nor mules; that they never had stolen stock. He said the fact of there being no bones scattered about their homes was evidence. He said he would bring all in with their families the next day to give themselves up. They all expressed their satisfaction at the assurances which I gave them that they would not be harmed, but provided for if they gave themselves up.

Fourteenth day, July 31.—The Indians continue to come into camp in about the same numbers as on the preceding days. This a. m. an old squaw came into camp and said the boy who was staying with me was her boy, and she wanted him to go with her. I asked the lad if he wanted to go and he answered no. The squaw then wanted a present for him. I asked the boy if I should give her a present for him. He said that she was nothing to him; that he did not wish me to give her anything on his account. I then told the squaw that the boy was with me of his own choice. If he wanted to leave he could do so; that I did not propose making a slave of him, but expected to take good care of him and give him clothes and everything necessary for his comfort. I told her, furthermore, that when the Indians all came in and gave themselves up she should have a present similar to that given the remainder of the tribe. She left me dissatisfied. About noon or a little after the boy went down to the corn-field for the purpose of bringing up some corn, and three Indians who were there kidnapped him and carried him off. As soon as I ascertained this I seized on six Indians who were in camp at the time, telling them that I should hold them as hostages for the safe return of the boy. At the same time I sent one Indian out to look him up and bring him into camp. This Indian returned in about an hour with a blanket which the boy had with him, but said he could not find the boy. I sent him out again, giving him to understand that the boy, not the blanket, was what I wanted. I at the same time assured him that when the boy was brought in, if he did not desire to stay he should have the liberty of leaving. This was the last Indian that came into my camp. My hostages were as follows: Two bucks, two boys, and two squaws. At about dark I had given directions that the hostages should be tied, and when they were about to tie them one of the squaws attempted to run off, and was shot and killed by the guard. One of the boys, about

fifteen years of age, also started to run. About twenty shots were fired at him and he must have been killed, as the Indians were hunting the brush for him all of that night and the night after. The brush was so thick that it was useless for us to make search for his body.

Fifteenth day, August 1.—Sent Captain Harrover with Company E, Fifth Infantry California Volunteers, with instructions to skirmish over the mountain west of Pinal Creek and north of the cañon, kill all buck Indians big enough to bear arms and capture all squaws and children he might come upon; also to examine carefully for caches of wheat. Captain Simpson was sent over the mountains south of the cañon. Lieutenant Stockwell was directed to scour the valley for Indians; all with similar instructions. I started myself with Sergeant Fergusson, of Company E, Fifth Infantry California Volunteers, and twenty-five men to skirmish the mountains east of Pinal Creek, which I did from Salt River on the north to a point one mile and a half south of the camp over a strip three or four miles in width. I succeeded in killing 1 Indian, which afterward proved to be a squaw, and capturing 1 squaw. Captains Harrover and Simpson reported meeting no Indians. Captain Harrover reported finding several caches which had been raised apparently two weeks. Lieutenant Stockwell reported meeting no Indians. On starting up the mountains on my skirmish I met Colonel Woolsey, Arizona miners, who reported the arrival of his command. This evening at the solicitation of Colonel Woolsey, who thought by doing so he might get the chief into camp, I set at liberty the squaw held as hostage for the return of the boy. She promised to return in two days with the chief. I told her that unless the boy was returned I should kill the hostages.

Sixteenth day, August 2.—Sent Lieutenant Stockwell with fifteen men of Company E, First Cavalry California Volunteers, to Camp Rigg for rations. Ordered the whole command on half rations to enable me to make a scout to Big Rump Valley. Had details out cutting and drying corn for men's rations.

Seventeenth day, August 3.—Lieutenant Qualey arrived with detachment, bringing express and Special Orders, No. 126, headquarters Apache Expedition. Hung the two buck Indian hostages at sundown.

Eighteenth day, August 4.—Sent Captain Harrover with thirty-five men of Company E, Fifth Infantry California Volunteers, up Pinal Creek to the Pinal Mountains at its head. Ordered Captain Simpson, with forty men of his company, to the same destination by way of Big Horse Cañon, and was preparing to start myself with a small detachment by the eastern route when express arrived from Camp Rigg ordering in all the troops. Sent dispatch immediately to Captain Harrover with orders to return to camp, and countermanded Captain Simpson's orders.

Nineteenth day, August 5.—Sent detachments to the various cornfields, with orders to cut down and destroy all corn and crops which remained. Broke camp at 2 p. m. and started on my march back to Camp Rigg in compliance with orders from Major Smith, commanding. Left Sergeant Fergusson in charge of twelve men of Company E, Fifth Infantry California Volunteers; twelve men of Company I, First Infantry New Mexico Volunteers, and three volunteers from Colonel Woolsey's command, secreted about camp, with instructions to kill any Indians coming into camp after the command moved out. Sergeant Fergusson was ordered to remain hidden until evening unless the Indians should discover him at an earlier hour, in which case he would join the command at once. Marched nine miles up the Eastern Fork of Pinal Creek and halted for the night in the midst of a terrific storm,

The creek, which was perfectly dry before, run a depth of twenty feet of water within the short space of thirty minutes. Several men and animals were cut off from the main command and were unable to join it until the next morning.

Twentieth day, August 6.—Sergeant Fergusson reached camp with his detachment at daybreak and reported that in about three hours after the command left camp fifteen Indians approached. His men fired upon and killed five of the number. For particulars I respectfully refer you to Sergeant Fergusson's report, which is herewith transmitted. Broke camp at 8 a. m. Marched to Camp Rigg, where we arrived at 8 p. m. Here the troops were turned over as a part of the garrison of that camp in command of Captain Frink, Fifth Infantry California Volunteers.

At 1 p. m. August 7 I started, in company with Colonel Woolsey, Doctor Allcott, and the guides, Jaycox and Parker, for this post, where I arrived at 11.30 p. m.

In conclusion, I would respectfully say that the cause of failure to surprise the camp of Indians on Pinal Creek was, the distance being greater than we had been informed, we were unable to make the march in the time allowed. Another unfortunate circumstance was meeting the party of Indians at midnight while on our march to make the attack. Had this accident not occurred we might have made camp and deferred our attack another day. At the time I received my orders to come in with my command I was fitting out an expedition to Big Rump Mountain, distant from the camp on Pinal Creek in a direct line about twenty miles, where a large number of Indians have concentrated to resist the whites. I believe I should have had a fight here had I not been ordered in.

The results of the scout may be briefly summed up as follows: Number of Indians killed, 10; number of Indians captured, 2; amount of corn destroyed, 20 acres, besides a considerable amount of beans, pumpkins, &c. The two captured Indians, one of them, however, the boy, was one of the hostages, were sent into Camp Rigg in charge of Lieutenant Stockwell, to be turned over to the officer in command at that camp.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. J. BLAKENEY,
Major First Cavalry California Vols., Comdg. Detachment.

Lieut. JOHN LAMBERT,
Fifth Infty. Cal. Vols., and Adjutant Apache Expedition.

[Inclosure.]

CAMP RIGG, *Rio San Carlos, August 7, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that agreeable to orders I remained in camp three hours, when fifteen Apaches were seen approaching the camp. When they were within thirty yards of us we fired upon them. They were thrown into confusion and fled in every direction, throwing down their arms and everything that could retard their flight. We immediately started in pursuit, but the close proximity of dense brush prevented our finding but one. We trailed four others into the brush by their blood. I am satisfied that 5 were killed or mortally wounded. We also took 2 blankets, 1 lance, 1 bow and several arrows, and 2 pairs of moccasins.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FERGUSSON,
Sergeant of Company E, Fifth Infantry California Vols.

Maj. T. J. BLAKENEY.

JULY 19, 1864.—Skirmish on the Benton Road, near Little Rock, Ark.

Report of Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Black, Third Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. THIRD REGIMENT CAVALRY MISSOURI VOLS.,
Camp near Little Rock, Ark., July 19, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: Early this morning the patrols on the Benton road, some four miles from my camp, were fired upon by rebels from an ambush, killing 1 and wounding 2. I sent out a reconnoitering party, but they failed in discovering the enemy. I suppose it to be the same parties who have been between here and the Saline River for some time past.

Very respectfully, &c.,

T. G. BLACK,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Third Regt. Cavalry Missouri Vols.

Lieut. C. H. FROST,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Brigade.

JULY 19, 1864.—Attack on Webster, Washington County, Mo.

Report of Capt. F. Kellermann.

POTOSI, *July 20, 1864.*

GENERAL: Last night twenty-five bushwhackers robbed the town of Webster, fifteen miles southwest of Potosi; took $1,500 worth of goods; killed 1 man, 6 horses, and took 2 men off with them. They traveled from there in a western direction and passed about three miles west of Potosi on their route. They are going toward Jefferson County. I telegraphed to Captain Montgomery. We have five soldiers here, and the citizens no arms. Can't you send us by morning train some ammunition and guns? We will organize our company to-night, and to-morrow I will send the rolls by mail or bring them in myself. Firing was heard during the night northeast of Cadet.

Yours, very respectfully,

F. KELLERMANN.

Brigadier-General EWING,
Saint Louis.

JULY 19–25, 1864.—Operations on the White River, Ark., and attack (24th) on the Steamer Clara Bell.

*Itinerary of the U. S. Forces, White River, Ark., commanded by Brig. Gen. George H. Gordon, U. S. Army.**

General Steele's line of communication via the White River being threatened, Major-General Canby on the 11th instant directed Brigadier-General Gordon, then at Memphis, to proceed to the mouth of White River, assume command of troops which had been sent there, and use them as circumstances might require. These troops consisted of the First Brigade, Third Division, Nineteenth Corps, with a battery,

* From monthly return.

and the brigade of Brevet Brigadier-General Bailey, at Vicksburg, was also placed at his disposal. This order was received July 18, and on the same day General Gordon started for White River.

July 19.—He assumed command of the troops at the mouth of the river.

July 20.—Ordered up General Bailey from Vicksburg.

July 21.—Proceeded to Saint Charles Bluff, on the White River. Arrived there on the 23d instant. Occupied and strengthened the works.

July 25.—Brevet Brigadier-General Bailey reported with his brigade of two regiments. Four companies of the Sixth Michigan Heavy Artillery, of this brigade, on the Clara Bell, having lagged behind, owing to the disobedience of orders of the lieutenant-colonel commanding, were fired upon [July 24] by a rebel battery and the boat destroyed.

JULY 20–31, 1864.—Operations in La Fayette and Johnson Counties, Mo., with skirmishes.

Report of Lieut. Frank Barkley, First Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Supplementary report of Company E, First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, for ten days, ending July 31, 1864:

July 20, Lieut. Frank Barkley and twenty-five men sent on scout; pursued Todd and band to Arrow Rock and back to Mound Prairie; returned to camp July 22; distance traveled, 150 miles. July 21, William H. Stephens and ten men sent to Warrensburg for rations; returned to camp July 22; distance traveled, forty-four miles. July 23, Sergt. J. C. Bram and ten men sent on scout with Major Neill; had severe skirmishes with guerrillas; wounded one of them; returned to camp July 25; distance traveled, 100 miles. July 25, Lieut. Frank Barkley and fifteen men sent to Lexington as escort for Major Neill; returned to camp July 26; distance traveled, thirty miles. July 28, Sergeant Bram and fifteen men sent to Lexington as escort for supply train; returned to camp July 29; distance traveled, thirty miles. July 30, Lieut. Frank Barkley and thirty-five men sent on scout to Honey Fork of Blackwater; returned July 31; distance traveled, fifty miles. Total distance traveled, 800 miles. Average distance to each man present for duty, 120 miles. Average distance per man for the whole company, 106⅔ miles. There have been from six to ten men out after forage every day. They have to go from six to eight miles for it.

Respectfully submitted.

FRANK BARKLEY,
Second Lieutenant, Commanding Company.

JULY 22–AUGUST 22, 1864.—Attempt to transfer Confederate troops to the east bank of the Mississippi River.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 28, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit the inclosed correspondence between Lieutenant-General Taylor and myself with reference to the

crossing of troops to the east side of the Mississippi River, and request that they may be brought to the notice of the President.* Convinced myself of its impracticability, I still spared no efforts in accomplishing the successful transfer of the troops from the department. Lieutenant-General Taylor having reported its impracticability, I have suspended the movement and ordered the transfer of the troops to the District of Arkansas for operations against Steele and in support of Major-General Price's expedition to Missouri.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General, Commanding.

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TUPELO, *July 9, 1864.*

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Trans-Mississippi Department:

There is but little doubt that Canby is now moving on Mobile with 20,000 troops. It is of vital importance that a part of your troops are crossed over the Mississippi, or you co-operate in such a manner as to divert their troops. General Bragg directed me to confer with you as to crossing troops.

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

—

TUPELO, *July 16, 1864.*

General E. KIRBY SMITH, or
Major-General WALKER,
Trans-Mississippi Department:
(Care commanding officer, Clinton, La.)

The President instructs me to say the enemy is reported to have withdrawn his main force from Louisiana to attack Mobile and operate east of Mississippi River. That under such circumstances it was expected of you that you would promptly aid by sending troops to defeat the plans of the enemy as soon as discovered. There is no doubt the enemy are moving against Mobile or some point east of the Mississippi.

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

—

MERIDIAN, *July 19, 1864.*

Col. J. S. SCOTT, or
Col. D. GOBER,
Clinton, La.:

General Lee directs that you send to General Kirby Smith, by special courier, the following dispatch:

BOLIVAR COUNTY, MISS., *July 12, 1864.*

Large fleet of transports, convoyed by eight gun-boats, are coming down White and Arkansas Rivers. This is supposed to be General Steele's entire force. Six boats lay at the mouth of White River yesterday. Of their movements, in whatever direction, you will be promptly informed.

J. C. S. BLACKBURN,
Captain Cavalry Company.

P. ELLIS, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*To complete the record of this subject other documents have been inserted in chronological order among those transmitted by General Smith. The latter are marked as inclosures, Nos. 1 to 24. These additions cover the correspondence, &c., from July 9, 1864, to January 31, 1865.

MONTGOMERY, *July 23, 1864.*

Brigadier-General LIDDELL:

Send this dispatch also:

Generals SMITH, TAYLOR, WALKER, or POLIGNAC:

The movement of troops ordered by the President should be executed with the least possible delay. If the trains for the troops cannot be brought over, the horses, mules, and harness should be brought at all events. I will have supplies collected for your troops on this side of the Mississippi, but you had better send commissaries ahead.

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, July 28, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Natchitoches, La.:

GENERAL: In pursuance of the following dispatch just received—

MONTGOMERY, *July 22, 1864.*

Brigadier-General LIDDELL:

Send following dispatch across the Mississippi by a reliable officer, with instructions to deliver it either to Generals Smith, Taylor, Walker, or Polignac:

"COLUMBUS, GA., *July 22, 1864.*

"Lieut. Gen. S. D. LEE:

"Inform General E. K. Smith that the President orders a prompt movement of Lieutenant-General Taylor and the infantry of his corps to cross the Mississippi. Such other infantry as can be spared by General Smith will follow as soon as possible. General Taylor on reaching this side of the Mississippi will assume command of the department.

"BRAXTON BRAGG."

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-General.

you will proceed to Alexandria forthwith and take command of the two infantry divisions in the District of West Louisiana. With these divisions you will cross the Mississippi River with as little delay as possible. Upon reaching the nearest telegraph station you will report to Richmond for further instructions. The inclosed copies of dispatches will govern your movements.

By command of General E. Kirby Smith:

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, July 28, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Natchitoches:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to inquire what members, if any, of your former staff you desire to accompany you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, July 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. G. WALKER,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to inclose herewith copy of instructions to Lieutenant-General Taylor,* and to say that he leaves it optional with you to be reassigned to your former division and accompany it, or to remain on duty in this department. The success of the movement will depend upon its secrecy and dispatch. He desires, therefore, that you will render every facility to General Taylor, and aid him to the full extent of your power. The general commanding also desires to know if General Wharton has returned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

MERIDIAN, MISS., *July 28, 1864.*
(Via Clinton, La.)

General E. KIRBY SMITH, or
ANY GENERAL OFFICER COMDG. C. S. FORCES WEST MISS. RIVER:

The enemy have concentrated a force at Vicksburg from above and below, also at Memphis, for movements in this department. By direction of General Bragg I ask your co-operation without delay in any available way, or on any point practicable, to divert their force and compel its return. Not knowing your locality can make no suggestions as to plans.

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 4.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, July 29, 1864.

Col. H. T. DOUGLAS,
Chief Engineer, Trans-Mississippi Department:

COLONEL: You will proceed to the headquarters District of West Louisiana and report to Maj. Gen. J. G. Walker, commanding, &c., for the purpose of advising with him as to the means of crossing troops to the east bank of the Mississippi River, and giving such assistance in making the necessary preparations and superintending the crossing as may be in your power. Having completed your work you will return and report in person at these headquarters.

By command of General E. Kirby Smith:

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure No. 5.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., July 29, 1864.

Major-General WALKER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say that the company of pontoniers at this place with their boats (twenty-four in

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* See p. 90.

number) will leave to-morrow for Alexandria, under instructions to report to you. These boats are provided with oars and oar-locks. The boats at Alexandria (eighteen in number) should be provided forthwith with oars and oar-locks, and also the necessary transportation to take them to the river. By this means you will have forty-two boats at your disposal. After the undertaking is accomplished the company of pontoniers, with their train from this place, will be sent back, an escort from the river being furnished them from the cavalry. Colonel Douglas, chief engineer, has been directed to proceed to Alexandria for the purpose of giving his personal supervision to the service of the pontoons. So soon as these duties are completed he will return to this place. The river is so low that the train will be sent from here by land.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure No. 6.]

NATCHITOCHES, *July 29, 1864.*

Brigadier-General BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge dispatches Nos. 3506 and 3507,* just received. If troops can be crossed at all it can only be effected by a diversion in the direction of New Orleans from this side. Much preparation in the collection, and perhaps also the building, of boats will be required. Can I expect assistance in these particulars? Secrecy will also be an important element in success, and I suggest, therefore, that I do not assume command of the infantry division until all preparations are complete. Pending the completion of arrangements I shall precede the troops to the other side to hasten any assistance possible there, and communicate with Richmond. I respectfully request that Col. J. L. Brent, Maj. E. Surget, William M. Levy, and A. H. Mason; Capts. C. LeD. Elgee, Andrew J. Watt, James McCloskey, and A. H. May, and Surg. P. B. McKelvey be ordered to accompany me. I leave at once for Alexandria, where I shall await an answer to this communication.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., July 30, 1864.
(Via Meridian August 8.)

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I request the promotion of Major-General Buckner to the rank of lieutenant-general, as it will relieve me from embarrassment in assigning him to duty. The telegram ordering General Taylor and infantry from this department across the Mississippi River was received July 28. Every means at my disposal will be used to secure the success of this movement. Arrangements were perfected for offensive operations in Arkansas and Missouri. The withdrawal of this force deprives the

* Inclosures 1 and 2, p. 90.

Trans-Mississippi Department of that portion of the troops upon which my dependence is placed for either offensive or defensive operations. Should the enemy in force renew the campaign west of the Mississippi River, in the reduced condition of my command, I will be powerless to oppose his advance. I shall push a cavalry force into Missouri; but since the withdrawal of Lieutenant-General Taylor and the infantry of his command, I will be too weak for prosecuting a campaign in the Arkansas Valley. Major-Generals Walker's and Polignac's divisions and Brigadier-General Thomas' brigade (six brigades of infantry) cross the Mississippi River under command of General Taylor.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

[Indorsement.]

AUGUST 8, 1864.

Secretary of War for attention, particularly to the recommendation in regard to Major-General Buckner.

J. DAVIS.

[Inclosure No. 7.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., July 31, 1864.

Lieutenant-General TAYLOR,
Alexandria:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 29th instant. The order from Richmond directing the movement of an infantry column under your command to the east bank of the Mississippi was evidently made under a great pressure upon our armies in that department. I fear the practicability of the movement, yet no efforts must be spared in securing its execution. You must yourself in person superintend the arrangements and accompany the column. You can, for the purpose of communicating with Lieutenant-General Lee, in Department of Mississippi, and with the authorities in Richmond, send any members of your staff immediately across the Mississippi, but for the better execution of the movement should remain yourself with the troops. I have ordered a train of twenty-five pontoons to Alexandria. Each boat is prepared with oars and oarlocks and has a capacity for transporting twenty-five men. These, with the eighteen boats at Alexandria, which General Walker has been directed to prepare in the same way, will give you some forty-five boats and will admit the crossing of about 1,000 men at a trip. Other skiffs, barges, and boats may be prepared and collected by you without delaying the expedition. You will consult with General Walker, now commanding the District of Louisiana, who has been ordered to give you every assistance and facility at his command. He has suggested the point of crossing, but I will leave its final determination to your own judgment. The disposition of the cavalry under his command can be determined between you, so as to best secure the success of the crossing. I do not believe that the diversion proposed in the direction of New Orleans is judicious. It would throw a body of cavalry into a distant and sickly country when their services are needed for operations in Arkansas and Missouri. I would rather suggest the employment of that force, in connection with artillery, to hold positions on the river above and below the point selected for crossing. It will be impossib e to keep the movement secret, the dispatches have passed through so many different hands and officers. Your calculations must be based

upon the knowledge of the movement coming sooner or later to our own people and troops. This may constitute one of the greatest difficulties to be encountered, as I fear that your command may prove refractory when they find that they are ordered across the Mississippi. An appeal to the patriotism of the men, representing the necessity which calls them to the assistance of their comrades in the Cis-Mississippi Department, may assure you that willingness on their part which is so necessary to the successful execution of this difficult movement. I inclose to you a copy of an order sent General Walker, which he will publish if you adopt my views in regard to the expediency of dealing openly and frankly with the troops. Should you determine otherwise, he can suppress the order, and the movement can be made with all the secrecy practicable. Let me urge upon you the necessity of expedition. No time should be lost in making the attempt to cross the river. General Walker commands the District of Louisiana. I have left it optional with him to resume the command of his division or to remain in the department. The love of his troops for him and his influence with them is well known to you. Even should he decide upon remaining in the District of Louisiana, it may be well for him to accompany the troops, temporarily commanding the division, until the crossing is secured. Should you desire it, I will instruct him accordingly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

[Inclosure No. 8.]

ALEXANDRIA, *July 31, 1864.*

Brigadier-General BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I reached this point last night and have had an interview with General Walker on the subject of crossing troops over the Mississippi. General Walker coincides with me in opinion that the command of the troops should remain with him until everything is in readiness to attempt the passage. Much time will necessarily be required in making preparations, and even then success will depend on chance to a certain extent. General Walker has already commenced the work and will doubtless use every energy in pushing it forward. I send an officer to Woodville to apprise the Department at Richmond of the difficulties to be encountered in carrying out the orders. The division of General Polignac is very weak, one of its regiments being absent. I respectfully inquire if General Thomas' brigade will be included in the troops to cross. This command is without arms here, and I suppose can be armed readily east of the Mississippi River. I shall await additional instructions from your headquarters at this point.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

[Inclosure No. 9.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 1, 1864.

Major-General WALKER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I inclose you a copy of my reply to a communication from Lieutenant-General Taylor of the 29th ultimo, also a copy of an order to be published in the event of your concurring with me as to

the propriety of making the destination of the expedition known to the troops. Your influence with your old command is deservedly great, and can be made a powerful auxiliary in securing its cheerful acquiescence in the movement. I believe that even though you finally remain in the district you should at least temporarily resume command of your old division and assist in putting it across the Mississippi. The larger part of your present command will necessarily be employed either directly or indirectly in forwarding the movement. It may be found impossible to cross the artillery and transportation. You should be prepared to secure its speedy removal beyond the reach of the enemy. You will perceive that in my letter to General Taylor I have directed him to take personal command of the expedition. The dispatch from Richmond directs this and he is responsible for its execution. You should give him every facility and assistance, and if necessary bring the strength of your whole district to bear upon the undertaking. You will observe that General Taylor asks for a number of officers to accompany him. I doubt whether Major Mason can be spared. Are either of the officers applied for necessary for the administration of the affairs of the district?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. G. WALKER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you send an officer across the Mississippi River with directions to proceed to the nearest telegraph station and place himself in communication with Major Price, ordnance officer at Selma, Ala., in charge of ordnance for the department. He will ascertain from Major Price the locality of the arms, and if it is practicable to push forward a sufficient number of arms for all the troops which are to cross the river. General Taylor and yourself are both aware of the difficulty of obtaining arms in this department, and if it is possible to arm the command immediately on their crossing, the arms now in their possession should be left in this department. If it is not practicable to bring the arms in time for the troops they still might be brought in sufficient time to take advantage of this opportunity to cross them.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure No. 10.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 3, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
C. S. Army, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 23d [22d] ultimo from Columbus, Ga. I inclose you copies* of my letters to Lieutenant-General Taylor on this subject; also a copy* of a letter to Major-General Walker, commanding District of West Louisiana, of the 1st instant. I shall go to Alexandria and will

*See pp. 90, 93, 94.

spare no efforts to secure the successful crossing of the troops. The force which accompanies General Taylor includes all the infantry in the District of West Louisiana, except one small regiment. It comprises the divisions of Walker and Polignac and the Louisiana brigade of General Allen Thomas, a force of six brigades, numbering between 9,000 and 10,000 men. There remains in the District of Texas 2,880 infantry by the last report of June 30, and in the District of Arkansas 5,300 infantry. My information from Arkansas does not indicate the withdrawal of any portion of General Steele's force. The operations of our cavalry have kept him constantly employed, and have rather strengthened than weakened him in his position. For the interests of this department I regret the necessity which compels the removal of the infantry under General Taylor to the east bank of the Mississippi. It leaves me powerless to resist any movement of the enemy made in force.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 11.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 193. } HDQRS. TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT, *Shreveport, La., August 3, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

V. The following officers are directed to report to Lieut. Gen. R Taylor, Provisional Army, C. S., for duty, and accompany him east of the Mississippi River: Maj. E. Surget, assistant adjutant-general; Maj. W. M. Levy, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. C. LeD. Elgee, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. A. H. May, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. A. J. Watt, aide-de-camp; Col. J. L. Brent, chief of ordnance and artillery; Capt. J. McCloskey, assistant quartermaster; Surg. P. B. McKelvey, medical director.

By command of General E. Kirby Smith:

S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. G. WALKER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 31st ultimo. He desires that if possible General Allen Thomas' brigade should cross the river, but if it is not possible it will have to remain, and the regiment at this place sent down instead.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure No. 12.]

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
Alexandria, August 4, 1864.

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: I beg leave to submit for your consideration the following plan for crossing our troops to the east bank of the Mississippi

River. I deem it proper to state that my proposition is made from an earnest desire to promote the interest of the service, and with no desire to intrude my views upon you: First, the main object, to cross the troops en masse in order that their organization may be retained and capable of entering at once upon an active field of usefulness. To accomplish this it will be necessary to take with the troops subsistence, artillery, and trains. This can only be done by a pontoon bridge, which I propose to use, as follows: To construct 100 additional pontoons with chesses and balks. These to be taken by steamers or rowed to the nearest point which can be reached contiguous to the proposed point for crossing the Mississippi River, thence by land to the point selected. To cross one-half the boats with as many men as they will transport, to act as a guard and render such assistance as may be necessary, to the east bank of the river with their complement of balks and chesses, and to put the bridge timbers on the pontoons, commencing on both sides at the same time; that when completed they shall be swung in position by row-boats attached (see sketch). That large boats, anchored 60 feet above the line of the bridge at intervals of 150 feet be prepared, over which a hawser shall be passed and guy lines holding the bridge in position connected with the bridge. That all the siege guns that can be collected be placed in a tête-de-pont commanding the bridge and at distances of half a mile above and below the bridge site. That in addition torpedoes should be placed across the river above and below the bridge as indicated by sketch. That men be placed on the anchor boats provided with water buckets and shoed poles to prevent fire-rafts from being floated against the bridge. By observing the utmost secrecy as to our intentions and promulgating the advance of our forces on Missouri or Lower Louisiana, our preparations could be made under cover of this mask, and I believe if we could not cross secretly we could force our passage. Should these views meet with your approval, I have the honor to respectfully recommend that Lieutenant Haney, with his company of engineer troops from Arkansas, and Lieut. N. H. Smith, with his company of engineer troops from Galveston, Tex., be ordered to report to me immediately at Shreveport to assist in constructing the pontoons. In thirty days I can prepare everything which belongs to my branch of the service, and confidently believe our efforts will be crowned with success. Should my views prove correct, the important turn of affairs which the troops would give, lending their assistance to the army in Georgia, now pressed almost to the wall, would guarantee any sacrifice here, and no effort should be lost to the accomplishment of the great object in view. I have the honor to state my readiness to enter at once upon the duties which may be assigned me in this important undertaking, feeling confident that we will succeed, and knowing that our success is of such vital importance.

I am, general, with great respect, your obedient servant,

H. T. DOUGLAS,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Engineer.

[Indorsement.]

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that I heartily approve of Colonel Douglas' plan, and believe it the only effectual means of throwing organized bodies of troops across the Mississippi. The delay is only

apparent, for if troops arrive east of the river without the preparation, time will be required there to place them in the field. I trust the views of Colonel Douglas will meet your approval.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

[NOTE ON ORIGINAL.]—Plan not inclosed, it being too inconvenient to handle, &c.

[Inclosure No. 13.]

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
Alexandria, August 4, 1864.

Capt. J. G. MEEM, Jr.,
Aide-de-Camp:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to address you relative to torpedoes which I desire to use in connection with our movements on hand, and to request that you bring it to the notice of the commanding general, who can decide whether to use them. I wish 100 torpedoes of 50 pounds each, constructed on the plan of those previously constructed at Shreveport, to place above and below the point at which we may propose to cross the river on a checkered line across the stream. We have 20; 100 more will be sufficient. I would also recommend that the three heavy guns on the Missouri be shipped in flat-boats, to be taken and placed in battery opposite the proposed point of crossing, and that eight siege guns on siege carriages be dispatched immediately from Texas, via Niblett's Bluff, to this point to be used in a similar manner. The heavy guns can be placed in position during one night at the time that the crossing by means of row-boats is going on, and if they serve their purpose we can well afford to throw them in the Mississippi River. The torpedoes will be a valuable auxiliary, and we should spare no means to insure the success of our undertakings. Powder should be gotten ready also—blasting if possible—if not, eleven-inch gunpowder. I desire also to respectfully recommend that the four siege guns at Shreveport be immediately mounted and sent to such a point as may be selected.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. T. DOUGLAS,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Engineer.

[Inclosure No. 14.]

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
Alexandria, August 4, 1864.

General W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Should the views which I had the honor to submit for the commanding general's consideration in my communication of to-day meet with his approval, will you please to order the quartermaster at Houston to procure and ship by special train, moving rapidly to Alexandria via Burr's Ferry or Niblett's Bluff, ten coils of inch rope, fifteen coils of two-inch rope, twenty coils of three or three-and-a-half-inch rope; also, 1,000 feet of anchor chain. All of these materials can be purchased in Houston.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. T. DOUGLAS,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

MOBILE, *August 5, 1864.*

Brigadier-General LIDDELL,
Clinton, La.:

Let General Dick Taylor and General Smith know that a large naval force and a large force under Canby, estimated at 10,000, are attacking Mobile.

D. H. MAURY,
Major-General, Commanding.

CLINTON, *August 5, 1864.*

Major HART,
Trans-Mississippi Department:

Department commander exceedingly anxious to know where General Taylor is. Where the troops are. Communicate in cipher.

ST. JOHN R. LIDDELL.

[Inclosure No. 15.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Alexandria, August 7, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The importance of expedition in crossing the infantry under your command to the east bank of the river must have impressed itself upon you. Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, chief engineer of the department, informs me that he has now forty-two pontoons ready for use, which can be transported to any point on the Mississippi River which may be selected for the crossing. In a few days he expects the arrival of twelve additional pontoons. These boats will cross twenty men each, exclusive of the oarsmen, and without the additional boats expected you will be enabled to cross between 800 and 900 men at a single crossing. If any good is to result from the crossing of this force it rests in the speedy execution of the movement and in their rapid transportation to the scene of action. By crossing beef-cattle and carrying breadstuffs and salt in the haversacks of your men you can, though with some privation, traverse the country from the east bank of the Mississippi River to the country where supplies can be obtained. By taking the artillery to pieces and by swimming the horses you may be enabled to cross a sufficient amount of artillery for your column. General Walker is instructed to designate four batteries of light artillery to accompany your column. If no serious interruption is offered you may be enabled also to cross your trains with supplies, but first crossing your men and artillery. If the way should be closed you can push on with beef-cattle and salt. In the dispatches (copies of which were furnished you) General S. D. Lee promised to have supplies collected east of the Mississippi River for the use of your column. It was, moreover, suggested that you should send commissaries in advance across the river. You will therefore make your arrangements for the immediate crossing of the Mississippi with the force which is to operate under your command. You can consult with Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, the chief engineer of the department, in regard to the point and mode of crossing. He is directed to report to you for that purpose, in the event you desire his services, as under the instructions contained in the dispatches the troops are to cross under your orders. You will conduct the operation of crossing in person. Major-General Walker,

commanding District of West Louisiana, has been directed to give you every assistance in his power. You can therefore consult with him in carrying out your plans. The staff officers designated by yourself can all accompany you, except Colonel Brent and Major Mason. Their services are too essentially necessary in the administration of the District of West Louisiana to admit of their being dispensed with. Major-General Walker, commanding District of West Louisiana, and Brigadier-General Thomas, commanding the brigade of exchanged Vicksburg prisoners, report the condition of that brigade so reduced in numbers and so disorganized that it is not effective for service. To attempt its crossing would be a serious loss of men and be detrimental to the interests of the service. Many of the men have not been exchanged and are not in camp. It is but a few days since notification was received of the exchange of any portion of the brigade. Under these circumstances I shall retain the brigade in the department, continue the collection and organization of the men, and when effected (if the necessities of our armies there require it) will order it across the river to your command. I have ordered the Crescent Regiment, stationed at Shreveport, immediately down, and believe it will join you before the crossing is effected. This regiment is large and will render you as much service as the disorganized command of General Thomas could possibly have done.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Alexandria, August 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. G. WALKER,
Commanding &c.:

GENERAL: I inclose a copy of a letter* to Lieut. Gen. R. Taylor with regard to the crossing of the troops under his command. I desire you to select four batteries of light artillery to accompany General Taylor's column, and suggest that the selection be made from the following batteries: Nettles' Valverde Battery, H. C. West's Arkansas battery, Boone's Louisiana battery, Gibson's Texas battery, Benton's Louisiana battery, Cornay's Louisiana battery. The four batteries selected to be commanded by a major of artillery. You will perceive from my letter to General Taylor that I have directed the immediate crossing of the troops. The collection of material and the preparations necessary for throwing a bridge across the Mississippi River necessitate a delay of at least thirty days, and I believe is of doubtful success. This delay would neutralize any good results which might come from the crossing of this column.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

[Inclosure No. 16.]

ALEXANDRIA, *August 8, 1864.*

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: Your communication of 7th instant was received last night. The importance of the expedition in crossing the infantry has

* See next, *ante*.

fully impressed itself upon me, but the means of effecting it and the necessary co-operation of other forces within this district are beyond my control.

On the 10th of June I was relieved from the command of the District of West Louisiana and ordered by you to Natchitoches to "await the pleasure of the President of the Confederate States."

On the 18th of July, six weeks after I was relieved by you, the order for me to cross the river and assume command of the Department of Mississippi and East Louisiana was issued from the War Department, evidently under the belief that I was in command of the District of West Louisiana or commanding a corps. Your order directing me to take command of the two infantry divisions reached me at Natchitoches on the 28th of July. From the date of my being relieved until the receipt of those orders I had no means of ascertaining the disposition of all our or the enemy's forces on or near the Mississippi River, the points at which the enemy's gun-boats were lying, and such other necessary facts as would enable me at once to fix upon suitable places for crossing. Although the orders from the War Department contemplated that I was in command, I can perceive nothing therein which instructs that the troops should "cross under my orders," and that "I should conduct the operation of crossing in person." So long as the command is within this department it is subject to your orders, and without dispositions made by you as commanding general I am powerless to effect anything. Simply to cross the men is but a portion of the movement; to subsist and transport them to localities where their presence and services are needed involve the most important features. There is but one railroad in the State of Mississippi in use by our authorities, and that lies east of Pearl River, its western terminus being quite a hundred miles distant from the Mississippi. While Lieutenant-General Lee states that he will establish depots of supplies, such depots can only be available if they are convenient to the points of crossing, and it might happen that those points would be an hundred miles from the supplies, as the movements of the enemy's forces along the river and of the gun-boats would influence the crossing, and places previously selected would be liable to interference by the enemy at the very moment when the movement at a particular point was about to be undertaken, and thus render an immediate change necessary. Co-operation between the two sides of the river is therefore of the highest importance, and a full understanding with General Lee can alone insure the establishment of supplies at convenient and accessible localities. I had the honor to submit to you several days ago, with an indorsement of my entire approval thereof, the plan of Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, which I consider the most practicable one which can be adopted. I have not heard from you on that subject.

In accordance with your instructions I furnished you on the 28th of July with the names of the staff officers whom I desired to report to me. Only last night I received your answer asserting that a portion of those named and needed by me should be assigned. I have been without staff officers necessary to enable me to make even the requisite preliminary arrangements, and but for the kindness of Major-General Walker, who has allowed me to use a portion of his staff, I should have been entirely without any such assistance. Major Mason, my former chief commissary, whose services are almost indispensable and upon which I relied, you refuse to allow me. No other commissary is assigned to me, and none could be so useful to me as this officer. Colonel Brent also, who has been on my staff for two years, and for whom I made application, is withheld. Both these officers share my earnest desire to have them ordered to report to me. If the troops are to be used in

the crisis to which you allude in your letter of yesterday, and if Atlanta, is the "scene of action" to which you refer, the distance to be accomplished, even after they cross the river, would render it necessary for adequate arrangements to be made on the other side of the Mississippi as well as on this to insure rapidity of movement and preserve the efficiency of the men, so that they could arrive in time and in condition for the performance of the services required of them. With this view, therefore, I applied in a former communication for permission to cross at once to the other side, where I could assume command of the department as directed by the War Department and hasten all the necessary arrangements. This permission having been refused by you I am without knowledge of the location and number of our forces on the other side, and as to the assistance which they can give to a column of infantry marching over so extensive a country. For the reason stated the troops whose co-operation is necessary to insure the success of the movement being beyond my control, the plan of crossing being devised by yourself, the necessary provision for subsistence and transportation, when the troops do cross, not being made, and being myself powerless under your instructions to remedy these vital deficiencies, I deem it proper to state to you that while I shall, to the best of my ability, carry out the instructions contained in your communication of yesterday, I do not deem myself responsible either for the failure or success of the undertaking which you direct.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *August 8, 1864.*
(Via Clinton, Miss., August 9.)

Lieut. S. F. CHIPLEY:
(For General E. Kirby Smith.)

Your dispatch of 30th July, 1864, received, and after inquiries can find no record of a telegram ordering you to send General Taylor and infantry from the Trans-Mississippi Department across the Mississippi River. No such order was ever given by me, though propositions to follow enemy's movements from your department were referred to your discretion in terms which implied the expectation you would do all which was consistent with the duties of your position. You had not communicated the purpose to commence offensive operations in Arkansas and Missouri, and no indications of it had reached me. I do not now perceive how the success of a movement, the arrangement for which you say had been perfected, could depend on infantry which was below the Lower Red River. Be that as it may, you must expect frequent diversity of views unless fuller information is given. I directed General S. D. Lee to keep you informed, so as having cointelligence there might be the more effective co-operation. If our forces succeed on the east side they will make easy the plans for the west side of the Mississippi. If our forces on the west side of the river should allow the enemy to leave that section, and by concentrating defeat those on the east side, your projected campaign could not fail to end in disaster. This was so obvious that I expected you to act without waiting for orders, so as to counteract the movement he was reported to be making with the troops you had lately defeated. Your recommendation in reference to General Buckner has been referred to War Department.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

CLINTON, *August 10, 1861.*

General B. BRAGG,
Richmond, Va.:

Two divisions of infantry, Taylor's corps within striking distance of river. Boats preparing. Time and place of crossing not fully decided upon. Forty pontoons on this side ready to move to point indicated. Much difficulty in the movement anticipated. General Taylor wishes his staff to come with him. Asks that Wharton with four cavalry brigades be brought across. Suggests that another division infantry now in Arkansas (he says) also come.

THOMAS BUTLER.

CLINTON, LA., *August 11, 1861.* (Via Mobile.)

General BRAGG:

I have just received dispatch, dated 3d instant, from General Taylor, directing me to learn whether it is contemplated that he shall cross the river should it be found impracticable to cross the troops; also whether you desire that he should precede the troops to this side.

W. STEVENS,
Captain, &c.

[Inclosure No. 17.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 11, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th instant. My letter written to you in Alexandria expresses clearly my views and the necessity for crossing immediately the Mississippi with the troops under your command. The inclosed copies* of dispatches from Generals Maury and Liddell are additional evidences of this necessity. The plan submitted and approved by you in your letter of August 8 for bridging the Mississippi is simply impracticable and visionary. It necessitates the concentration of engineer troops from Arkansas and Texas—virtually the establishment of a navy-yard at Shreveport and building of boats. It makes requisition for material on the city of Houston, Tex., which in all probability will have to be imported. Under the most favorable circumstances it requires preparations, the collection of materials, and construction that would necessitate the delay of at least two months, and might fairly convey the impression that we were endeavoring to evade the order directing the crossing of the troops. You certainly could not have carefully examined the plan proposed or you would not have approved and recommended a course which detains indefinitely the troops here, while the campaign east of the Mississippi, in which they were to participate, has already reached a crisis. In my letter of July 31 the whole disposable force of the district was placed under your control through General Walker, its commander. The point and mode of crossing were left to your own judgment. It was only suggested instead of sending the cavalry on a distant expedition toward New Orleans they, with artillery, should be used to cover the crossing by holding points above and below the point selected. In my letter of the 31st I authorized you to send members of your staff east of the Mississippi for the purpose of

* See Maury to Liddell and Liddell to Hart, August 5, p. 99.

obtaining information and making provision for your troops. Your experience on the Mississippi, your knowledge of the country, and your personal interest in the success of the movement, make you the proper officer to command, even had the dispatches from the War Department not so directed. The list of staff officers furnished by you, whom you desired might accompany you east of the river, was carefully considered by me in the intention of being liberal and with the desire of complying with your wishes; but two on the list were objected to—Major Mason and Colonel Brent. Their services are too indispensably necessary, without inflicting serious injury upon the interests of the District of West Louisiana. As an evidence of my liberality I made no objection to either of the five adjutant-generals whose names were on that list, viz, Colonel Levy, Major Surget, Captain Elgee, Captain May, and Captain Watt. General S. D. Lee has, I believe, gone to Atlanta. The inclosed copies of dispatches would indicate that General Maury commands the department and is besieged at Mobile. General Liddell, immediately commanding the district opposite to you, is at Clinton. You can communicate with him and obtain his co-operation. I again urge upon you the necessity of promptly crossing the force under your command; at least, the attempt should be made. If there is any unnecessary delay the authorities at Richmond can judge where the fault lies and upon whom the responsibility rests.

I am, general, very respectfully,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. G. WALKER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant. The change in the movement of the two brigades ordered to Arkansas may endanger us in that district, but as the successful crossing of the Mississippi by General Taylor's column is of the highest importance, I will adopt the change in the disposition of the troops made by yourself. I desire nothing to be done that will hazard the success of General Taylor's movement across the Mississippi. You will have the two brigades of Major's division prepared, so that they can march to Arkansas as soon as the movement of General Taylor has been accomplished. General Bagby should command. That will probably be the most important theater of operations, and a good officer should march in command of the troops. I inclose you a copy of a letter* to-day written to General Taylor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

CLINTON, LA., *August 12, 1864.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: I was unable to communicate fully with you by telegram, as I could not do so in cipher, and I was advised, for prudent reasons,

* See next, *ante*.

not to give any important information unless written in that way. On the 10th of August the cipher was obtained at General Liddell's headquarters, and I then sent you a dispatch giving the chief points in General Taylor's communication. I now inclose the general's letter, which will give you his views more plainly than I could myself transmit them.

General Taylor, through his staff officer, begs me that you will use your influence to have the troops that cross to this side paid up as soon as practicable. They have been greatly neglected in this respect, and he thinks a prompt attention to their wants would, to a certain extent, tend to remove the dissatisfaction which would exist by reason of transfer.

He also suggests that when the troops are brought from Arkansas, General Price be left in the Trans-Mississippi Department. He thinks, unless ordered to remain, the general will be sent over, as General E. K. Smith is anxious to get rid of him.

You will see from General Taylor's letter that he anticipates difficulty, moral as well as material, in the transfer of the troops to this side, but he promises that every exertion will be used to overcome both.

On the 9th I again wrote to General Taylor, suggesting that he had better act fully without waiting to hear from Richmond, telling him that you considered expedition in the movement of the troops. I also informed him that it was your wish that he should move in person to this side as soon as practicable.

I have not heard from General Smith.

Generals Wirt Adams and Liddell have made all necessary arrangements for providing transportation and supplies for the troops as they cross over, and both are ready to give such co-operation as to facilitate the movement.

It is feared that the enemy is apprised of our intentions, not from positive information but from his spies observing preparations which indicate the contemplated movement. We find the greatest caution and secrecy necessary, as the inhabitants are in constant communication with the enemy.

I will inform you as soon as I get further news.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS BUTLER,
Captain, &c.

[Inclosure No. 18.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 12, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Major-General Forney left this morning to report to you to take command of Walker's old division. From letters received this morning the general commanding is led to believe that serious difficulty will arise among the troops on General Forney's taking command of that division. If these apprehensions are well founded, and as this is the only command to which he can be assigned in the department, the general commanding directs that upon your arrival on the east side of the Mississippi River you will relieve General Forney of command and order him to report to Richmond. General Smith requests that you communicate to him your views on this subject.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN G. MEEM, JR.,
Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

CLINTON, LA., *August 13, 1864.* (Via Mobile.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Richmond, Va.:

Are the troops from the Trans-Mississippi to bring their arms with them? General Smith has decided not, if arms can be procured from Selma.

THOMAS BUTLER,
Captain and Aid-de-Camp.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted for the information of the President.

[Second indorsement.]

General BRAGG:

Some arms will be necessary for police and possibly for contingencies, but it would be well, as far as practicable, to avoid the transfer of arms from the Trans-Mississippi Department.

J. D.

[Inclosure No. 19.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, August 13, 1864.

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 11th instant (No. 3637). In my note to you of the 9th instant, to which yours is an answer, I mentioned that I had already put Parsons' cavalry brigade en route for Arkansas. Harrison's Louisiana brigade, as you know, had already marched. I was, therefore, surprised at this passage in your communication:

> You will have the two brigades of Major's division prepared, so that they can march to Arkansas as soon as the movement of General Taylor is accomplished.

It would appear from this that it is your desire that four cavalry brigades shall be sent to Arkansas from this district. In our conversation on the subject while you were here, and in the correspondence which has taken place between us on the subject, you did not intimate that you desired me to send more than three brigades—the two in addition to Harrison's command. Please give me instructions on this point. The preparations for the crossing of the command of General Taylor have been pushed forward by Colonel Douglas and his assistants with such energy that the pontoons will be able to move from here to-morrow; those I mean that have not already been sent around by water. It is of the greatest importance to the success of the movement that General Taylor should be with the troops in superintendence of the whole in person, but I learn from one of his staff that he intends leaving here to-morrow to assume command of the Department of Mississippi and await the arrival of the troops on the other side. This is in consequence, as Major Levy informs me, of an order to that effect sent him directly by General Bragg and received last night. I have not seen the order, and think Major Levy is mistaken in regard to the order being from General Bragg. It was probably the advice to that effect of Major-General Maury.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. WALKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 20.]

ALEXANDRIA, *August 13, 1864.*

General E. K. SMITH,

Comdg. Trans-Mississippi Department, Shreveport:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 11th instant at this place to-day. In reply to your remarks in reference to crossing troops over the Mississippi River, I have to say that I have been unfortunate in my manner of expression if I have not in my previous correspondence satisfied you as to my appreciation of the importance of such a movement and of the promptness with which it should be executed. I beg to add, however, that the plan suggested in my letter of the 8th instant for effecting such an end, to which you refer as "submitted and approved by me," emanated from Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, an officer of your staff and chief engineer of the department. I have never been in a position to become acquainted with the resources of the entire department, and if those resources are inadequate to the execution of the plan of the chief engineer, who certainly had the best means of knowing them, the fault that the plan is "impracticable and visionary" should not be attributed to me. I trust that my professional career since I have held a command in this department will show that my military plans have generally proved neither "impracticable nor visionary." You state that in your letter of July 31 the whole disposable force of the district was placed under my control through General Walker, its commander. By that letter I understood myself to be placed in command of the infantry only of my former command, and I learned from Major-General Walker that he had received orders to assist and confer with me. Major-General Walker has extended me his cordial co-operation, but the whole disposable force of the district was certainly not placed under my control. In reference to your suggestion for covering the point selected for crossing by cavalry and artillery, I beg to say that my experience in engaging the enemy's gun-boats has shown me the futility of attempting to prevent their passing any batteries we might be able to place upon the bank. The proposition that gun-boats can pass batteries in navigable streams has been, I think, incontestably proven by experience, and especially on the Mississippi River, which is almost an inland sea. In general, a diversion should be made to cover the crossing of an ordinary stream in the face of the enemy. It would be more necessary, therefore, in crossing the Mississippi, and a plan based upon this recognized proposition would eminently justify sending the cavalry on a "distant expedition." Your letter of July 31 authorized me to send officers of my staff east of the Mississippi, but it was not until the evening of the 7th instant that I received an answer indicating which officers of my former staff you would permit to remain with me. There was not a moment's delay in sending them, as almost the whole of my former command was ordered east of the Mississippi. I fail to appreciate the liberality which permitted a portion of the staff long connected with that command to accompany it, and in this connection I would observe that the orders of General Bragg to me were issued on the supposition that I was still commanding the troops of the District of West Louisiana, whereas I had been for some weeks removed, even from the theater of their operations. My correspondence with your headquarters since you have commanded this department will show that it has been my constant endeavor to delocalize the operations of the troops under my command, and so to conduct their movements as

to conduce most powerfully to the success of our comrades-in-arms east of the Mississippi. With the long-settled conviction which has dictated such a course, I cannot be deemed insensible to the importance of the movement now in contemplation.

I beg to observe, in conclusion, that I do not anticipate accomplishing impossibilities, but that not a moment's delay has occurred through me with the means at my disposal to attempt to carry out the difficult duty assigned me. The troops are already in position to cross and the means of crossing en route to their respective destinations. I myself leave here to-morrow to join the troops.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

CLINTON, LA., *August 14, 1864.* (Via Mobile.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Your dispatch of the 12th received. General Taylor was previously informed of your wishes. Four thousand infantry will cross the Mississippi River on Thursday, the 18th, at Dolgin Wall. This comprises the whole force expected.

THOMAS BUTLER.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully submitted for the information of the President.

[Second indorsement.]

General BRAGG:

How can the number of men reported be transferred as two divisions, or has a change been made?

J. D.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
August 22, 1864.

Respectfully returned to His Excellency the President. I have indicated to General Taylor that he should cross and assume his new command, but I think it better be renewed.

The number of men (4,000) reported in the dispatch within seems to be the whole force intended to be sent. See copy of cipher telegram of 22d, herewith sent.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

ALEXANDRIA, *August 14, 1864.*

General E. KIRBY SMITH:

GENERAL: Your communication of 12th instant (No. 3659) has just been received, in which you inform me that Major-General Forney is on his way to this place to report to me to take command of Walker's old division.

After stating that you have received letters which lead you to believe that "serious difficulty will arise" among the troops on General Forney taking command of that division, you say:

If these apprehensions are well founded, and as this is the only command to which he can be assigned in the department upon (my) arrival on the east side of the Mississippi River (I) will relieve General Forney and order him to report to Richmond.

While in your letters you profess an anxiety and desire to facilitate the movement of the troops, you now persist in the assignment of this officer, in spite of "serious difficulty" which you believe will arise thereby, and thus add embarrassment in the matter, and direct me when I shall reach the new department, which is independent of your control and jurisdiction, to relieve him and order him to Richmond. Obviously, the only effect of your instructions will be to place General Forney in command of the troops at the moment when the difficulty of which you speak would embarrass the important movement, whose success and dispatch you profess to be desirous of advancing, and thus you would get rid of an officer whose services you do not need or desire in your own department. While you have the right to assign commanders to troops serving within your military jurisdiction, you certainly have none to direct disposition of officers in a command separate from and independent of your own. As soon as the troops reach the bank of the Mississippi River I shall order General Forney to report to your headquarters, as I do not require him to cross with the division.

In one of your former letters to me you speak of the influence of Major General Walker with his old division, he having been in command of it for nearly two years. In view of this fact, and of his being in command of the District of West Louisiana, controlling its military resources and familiar with the dispositions and operations which may have taken place recently within the district, the dispatch, secrecy, and efficiency of the movement of crossing the troops would surely have been promoted by charging him therewith and permitting me to proceed in the first instance to the Cis-Mississippi, where in command of my department I could have matured all the arrangements necessary to be made on that side, and with Major-General Walker in command of his old division the embarrassments and difficulties referred to in your letter of the 12th instant would not have arisen.

Inclosed I forward you copy of dispatch in cipher from Capt. T. Butler, of General Bragg's staff, dated Clinton, La., August 9. I shall start at once for my command, and after visiting the troops on this side and inspecting the arrangements for crossing them proceed to the department to which I have been assigned and make the needful dispostions there.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

[Inclosure.]

CLINTON, LA., *August 9, 1864.*

General Bragg directs that you come across and assume your new command as soon as practicable.

THOMAS BUTLER,
Captain, &c.

[Inclosure No. 21.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, August 15, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. TAYLOR:

GENERAL: By a letter of the 13th instant from General Walker, commanding the District of West Louisiana, I learn that you contemplate leaving the troops here under your command and crossing the Mississippi. This I positively forbid. Your presence with those troops now on the eve of crossing is of the greatest importance to the success of the movement. Should you have received instructions from higher author-

ity than the commanding officer of this department you will furnish me with a copy of them, and you will still remain in command of the troops until further orders, as I shall object to a compliance of those instructions until the crossing of the troops shall have been effected.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, August 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. S. B. BUCKNER, *District of West Louisiana:*

GENERAL: I am directed by General Smith to inclose to you the accompanying letter to General Taylor.* If the circumstances are true, as represented by General Walker, as to the movements of General Taylor, you will hand or cause to be handed to General Taylor the accompanying letter to him. If not true, you will retain the letter.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.,

GUY M. BRYAN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Harrisonburg, August 16, 1864.

Major-General WALKER,
Commanding the District of Western Louisiana:

GENERAL: I will remain with the troops at this point for the present, and will cross the Mississippi with them unless I receive additional news or further orders to cross at once. The pontoon boats have arrived, and the troops will be moved to a convenient point for crossing at once. To insure success we require cavalry to picket the immense extent of country, and I hope none of the cavalry now here will be moved off until after the movement is over, or at least has been attempted. It will also be important for us to have an infantry force left at hand or in the vicinity of Harrisonburg. I therefore request that such portion of Thomas' brigade as is armed will be sent to this point to hold the country. If Thomas' brigade is not in condition to be moved, cannot Debray's brigade be sent here for this purpose?

I respectfully request that you will forward the substance of this communication to the department headquarters. I have seen all of the officers of your old division; they seem to be in fine spirits and well inclined to undertake the movement.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

[Inclosure No. 22.]

NEAR HARRISONBURG, *August 18, 1864—10 p. m.*

General E. KIRBY SMITH:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that information just received from the Mississippi River satisfies me of the impracticability and impossibility of crossing any body of troops. The notoriety which the projected movement has obtained has caused the enemy to make such dispositions of his gun-boats as effectually to defeat the attempt to cross at or near the point for which arrangements were in progress. I have dis-

* Inclosure No. 21, next, *ante*.

patched to the War Department, at Richmond, a message containing my views of the impracticability of moving troops from this to the east bank of the Mississippi, and I shall await at this point further orders from the War Department on that subject in answer to my dispatch. I have advised Major-General Wharton to send Parsons' cavalry brigade at once to Arkansas. I beg leave respectfully to submit my opinion, that if any movement of troops in this department is in contemplation it should not be delayed on account of the proposed crossing of the infantry from this district, which I believe to be at present impossible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

Major-General BUCKNER:

The letter on the other half of this sheet is inclosed in an envelope to you for your information. After reading be pleased to inclose in another envelope and forward to General Smith.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

[Inclosure No. 23.]

HARRISONBURG, *August 18, 1864.*

General E. K. SMITH,
Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

I have the honor to inform you that I have dispatched the War Department to the effect that I consider the crossing of any considerable body of troops impossible. Accurate observations have been made of the enemy's gun-boats between Red River and Vicksburg, and from the strictness of the guard maintained no success can be anticipated. Later in the season, when the Mississippi has attained its lowest stage, troops may be crossed above Vicksburg near Paw Paw Island, where many difficulties to navigation occur. I consider that the bare attempt to cross, almost certain to result in failure, will be very prejudicial to the troops, as many desertions will occur. Meantime not only the troops to be crossed are kept idle, but all the cavalry and artillery assisting the movement. These might certainly be of some service elsewhere in this department. I shall push forward the troops to the vicinity of the river and use every exertion and precaution to insure success, but I hope the receipt of my dispatch will induce the War Department to countermand the order.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR HARRISONBURG, LA., *August 19, 1864—9 a. m.*

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 15th instant (No. 3697) reached me at a late hour last night by the hands of Captain Foote, of Major-General Buckner's staff.

On the 14th instant I wrote you from Alexandria informing you that I had been directed by General Bragg, commanding the armies of the Confederate States, under the direction of the President, to cross the river and assume command of the department to which I had been assigned. I inclosed a copy of the dispatch and informed you that I

should leave Alexandria, and after inspecting the troops and arrangements cross the river.

On my arrival at this place on the night of the 16th instant I found that the difficulties of effecting the movement of crossing the Mississippi were greater even than I had anticipated, and being unwilling to cast unpleasant responsibilities upon other officers, I at once wrote to Major-General Walker that I should remain on this side and give my personal attention to crossing the troops. I requested General Walker to forward to you immediately a copy of my letter to him. After I reached this place, the pontoon train having been started across the Ouachita, I received information that the enemy were, and had been for several days, aware of the contemplated movement, and had moved their iron-clads from below, stationing them between Vicksburg and the mouth of Red River at intervals of about twelve miles, with their other gun-boats constantly patrolling between those stations, and not more than four hours ever elapsed without a gun-boat passing up or down between Vicksburg and Red River. Deeming the attempt impracticable, and satisfied from personal observation and unmistakable information that it would result only in injury to the whole command, I assumed the responsibility of ordering a suspension of the movement until I could hear further from the War Department, at Richmond, dispatching to that effect on yesterday, and informing you by letter last night of the action which I had taken, and that I should await at this point an answer to my dispatch. Already several hundred desertions from the infantry corps have taken place, a majority of which occurred after the suspension of the movement, but just prior to its announcement to the troops. Convinced of the impossibility of crossing, to have marched the troops nearer the river would have resulted in the loss by desertion of at least one-half the entire command, and while the object in view would have failed, the efficiency of the corps, if not destroyed, would in all probability have been permanently injured. Among the causes which have induced and aggravated this desertion are the following: The non-payment of the troops for a period of twelve months, the absence of a very large proportion of the field officers of the divisions, recent changes which have been made among regimental and brigade commanders, and the inactivity of the command for the last two months. As an illustration of the large number of officers who are absent from their commands, I would cite one brigade (Maclay's) which is commanded by a major and only one other field officer (a major) present.

I cannot recognize the propriety of expression used in your letter (No. 3697), in which you state that you "positively forbid" my crossing the river, &c., nor the right which you assume of controlling my obedience to orders emanating directly from the President of the Confederate States through the officer commanding the armies under him. I was relieved by you from the command of the district to which I had been assigned by the President and ordered to "await his pleasure." That pleasure has been indicated by assignment of me to another command and department. When orders reach me from the President I shall obey them, or if, in my judgment on the ground delay or suspension are necessary I shall be governed by my discretion, advising the proper authority of my reasons therefor.

The mode and channel in which the Commander-in-Chief conveys his orders and instructions to me, if objectionable to you, are matters which you must yourself arrange with the higher authority.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, August 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Department Headquarters:

GENERAL: I am in receipt of information from Major-General Wharton, dated 19th instant, to the effect that large numbers of men from Walker's and Polignac's divisions have deserted (200 from the latter with arms). At the suggestion of General Wharton I have directed cavalry to be distributed at the various ferries from Cotile to Grand Ecore to intercept the deserters. If you have any troops disposable for similar service between Grand Ecore and Shreveport I would respectfully request that they be so employed.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

S. B. BUCKNER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SHREVEPORT, LA., *August 21, 1864.*

PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have the honor to report that the general commanding the department has been sick for the last ten days with an attack of acute dysentery. Being very weak, he directs me to write you as follows:

I was very much surprised at receiving your telegram informing me that no order was on file directing the infantry of my command to cross the Mississippi River. Your telegram implies that I should have followed the enemy's troops lately operating in this department, and that I was expected to so employ my forces as to prevent him at least from re-enforcing the armies of Grant and Sherman.

I beg leave to submit the following résumé of events which have transpired since my arrival in this department, as also my plans for the last campaign, and the reasons why I was unable to detain longer the armies opposed to me:

After I reached the department, and before I could become fully acquainted with the character and position of the troops, the operations against Vicksburg and Port Hudson absorbed all my attention. Banks' first raid, in which he overpowered General Taylor at Camp Bisland, swept through the most productive portions of Louisiana and caused the loss of our works controlling the navigation of the Red River and Atchafalaya. This was subordinate to the investment of Port Hudson.

I made the best disposition I could of my troops to aid in the relief of Vicksburg and Port Hudson.

General Taylor, with Walker's division drawn from Arkansas, moved secretly up the Tensas in transports, and landing a few miles from where Grant crossed the Mississippi River, attempted a *coup de main* upon his communications. The enterprise succeeded, but did not produce the important results anticipated, Grant having previously acquired a base of supplies upon the Yazoo River.

General Taylor now moved into the La Fourche country, where he operated successfully in interrupting the navigation of the Mississippi River between Port Hudson and New Orleans. His position became perilous after the fall of Port Hudson, and he recrossed Berwick Bay.

General Holmes reported that it was practicable for him to take Helena, and permission was given him to attempt it. The position was unsuccessfully assailed on the 4th of July. The enemy subsequently advanced, General Price abandoned Little Rock, and our forces fell back to Camden.

In the fall of 1863 the enemy made two attempts upon Texas. In the first he landed at the mouth of the Sabine, where, by the gallantry of a single company occupying a small fort, he was beaten, two of his gun-boats captured, and his design frustrated. He then concentrated a column at Berwick Bay in the season of low water, intending to proceed along the coast, drawing his supplies from its numerous inlets. I met this by placing Magruder's small force at the Sabine, holding Taylor on his flank. The latter, by avoiding a general engagement, while he harassed and menaced his communications, caused him to retire, when by a brilliant rear-guard action General Green punished him severely. Banks then commenced his

series of grand maneuvers upon the whole length of the coast of Texas. General Green's division was transferred to Galveston and the mouth of the Brazos to meet a powerful force landed on Matagorda Peninsula. Throughout the winter General Magruder was occupied in foiling the designs of the enemy, who, numerically, was greatly his superior.

This brings me to the point of time when the spring campaign opened, and I beg you to remark the position of the opposing forces. My lines extended from the Indian Territory, through Arkansas, to the Mississippi and down to the mouth of the Red River, thence by the Atchafalaya to Berwick Bay, and from thence by the coast to the Colorado. A small body of troops was engaged in observing the enemy at Brownsville. My forces were massed in three principal bodies, to wit, under Magruder, opposite Banks, on Matagorda Peninsula; under Price, confronting Steele; under Taylor, holding the lower Red River.

The immense transportation of the enemy admitted of his taking the initiative with his entire force at any moment against any portion of my extended lines, while my limited transportation and the wide distances which separated my commands made it impossible to effect rapid concentration or assume the offensive. My only alternative was to wait the development of the enemy's plans, to retire before him until I effected my concentrations, and to endeavor to maneuver to throw the principal mass, if not my whole force, against one of his columns.

As I wrote you in the fall of 1863, I was satisfied that the line of Red River would be the line of his principal attack, because, as I then said, when the water rose so as to admit his gun-boats, he could employ his powerful naval armament in conjunction with the advance of his infantry column. In accordance with this view, I had established last fall subsistence and forage depots along the roads through the barren country between Texas and Red River and between Camden and Natchitoches.

I omitted to state that I had been obliged to keep a force in the Indian Territory to hold in check several thousand men under Thayer at Fort Smith, and to cover Northern Texas, filled with disloyal people. The water in the beginning of February being in a stage to admit gun-boats into Red River, General Banks suddenly transferred his force to New Orleans and Berwick Bay, leaving but 6,000 or 8,000 men in Matagorda Peninsula, who subsequently joined him at Alexandria after the retreat from Mansfield. Between the 21st and 26th of February I directed General Magruder to hold Green's division in constant marching order. On the 6th of March the division was ordered to move with dispatch to join General Taylor, who was embarrassed for want of cavalry. On the 12th of March a body of 8,000 or 10,000 men, composed of portions of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps, under General A. J. Smith, moved down from Vicksburg to Simsport, and subsequently advanced with such celerity on Fort De Russy, taking it in reverse, that General Taylor was not allowed time to concentrate and cover this most important work, our only means of arresting the progress of the gun-boats. The fall of the work and the immediate movement of the enemy by means of his transports to Alexandria placed General Taylor in a very embarrassing situation. He extricated himself, with his characteristic tact, by a march of seventy miles through the pine woods.

Banks now pressed forward from Berwick Bay by the line of the Teche, and by the aid of steamers both on the Mississippi and Red Rivers concentrated at Alexandria a force of 30,000 men, supported by the most powerful naval armament ever employed on a river.

As soon as I had received intelligence of the debarkation of the enemy at Simsport, I ordered General Price to dispatch his entire infantry to Shreveport, and General Maxey to move toward Price, and when Steele advanced, to join Price with his whole command, Indians included. The cavalry east of the Ouachita was directed to fall back toward Natchitoches and subsequently to oppose, as far as possible, the advance of the enemy's fleet. It was under command of General Liddell. All disposable infantry detachments in Texas were directed on Marshall; and although the enemy still had a force of several thousand on the coast, I reduced the number of men holding the defenses to an absolute minimum. General Magruder's field report shows that but 2,300 men were left in the entire District of Texas. Except these, every effective soldier in the department was put in front of Steele or in support of Taylor. When this was accomplished the disparity in numbers was frightful. Taylor had at Mansfield, after the junction of Green, 11,000 effectives, with 5,000 infantry from Price's army in one day's march from him at Keachie. Price, with 6,000 or 8,000 cavalry, was engaged in impeding the advance of Steele, whose column did not number less than 15,000 of all arms.

Banks pushed on to Natchitoches. It was expected he would be detained there several days in accumulating supplies. Steele, on the Little Missouri, and Banks, at Natchitoches, were either but about 100 miles from Shreveport or Marshall. The character of the country did not admit of their forming a junction above Natchitoches, and if they advanced equally I hoped by refusing one to fight the other with my whole force. It seemed probable at this time that Steele would come up

first. When he reached Prairie D'Ane two routes were open to him—the one to Marshall crossing the river at Fulton, the other direct to Shreveport. I consequently held Price's infantry a few days at Shreveport, when Steele's hesitation and the reports of the advance of Banks' cavalry caused me to move it to Keachie, a point twenty miles in rear of Mansfield, on the road where it divides to go to Marshall and Shreveport. It was directed to report to General Taylor. I now visited and conferred with General Taylor. Neither believed that Banks could get advanced his infantry across the barren country stretching between Natchitoches and Mansfield. I returned to Shreveport and wrote to General Taylor, instructing him to choose a position in which to fight, and move a reconnaissance in force and compel the enemy to display his infantry; to notify me as soon as he had done so, and I would join him in the front. I hoped to derive an element of morale from the arrival of Churchill's command and my own presence at the moment of action. The reconnaissance was converted into a decisive engagement with the advance corps of the enemy (a portion of the Thirteenth and his cavalry), and by the rare intrepidity of Mouton's division resulted in a complete victory over the forces engaged. General Taylor pushed forward his troops in pursuit, met, engaged, and repulsed the Nineteenth Corps, which was hastening to the support of the Thirteenth Corps. Price's infantry came up from Keachie that night. The next morning our whole army advanced and found the enemy in position at Pleasant Hill. Our troops attacked with vigor and at first with success, but by a superiority of numbers were finally repulsed and thrown into confusion. The Missouri and Arkansas troops, with a brigade of Walker's division, were broken and scattered. The enemy recovered cannon which we had captured, and two of our pieces were left in his hands. To my great relief I found in the morning that the enemy had fallen back during the night. He continued his retreat to Grand Ecore, where he intrenched himself and remained until the return of his fleet and its passage over the bars, made especially difficult this season by the unusual fall of the river. The question may be asked why the enemy was not pursued at once. I answer, because our troops were completely paralyzed by the repulse at Pleasant Hill, and the cavalry, worn by the long march from Texas, had been constantly engaged for three days, almost without food or forage.

Before we could reorganize at Mansfield and get into condition to advance over the fifty-five miles of the wilderness which separated the armies, the enemy was re-enforced and intrenched at Grand Ecore. If we could not whip him at Pleasant Hill in a fair fight, it would have been madness to have attacked him at Grand Ecore in his intrenchments, supported by a formidable fleet of gun-boats. No sustained operations for dislodging him could be undertaken, because it was impossible to transport supplies for the entire army from Shreveport, distant 100 miles. The enemy held possession of the river until he evacuated Grand Ecore. A large steam-boat which had been sunk in the narrowest part of the channel for the purpose of obstructing the passage upward of this fleet had to be removed before the river could again be used. Here occurred the most perplexing movement of the campaign to me. Should I with the bulk of my forces pursue Banks until he left the Red River Valley, or should I march against Steele, who threatened my depots and workshops, the loss of which would well nigh have closed operations in this department? I determined upon the latter, and for the following reasons:

I have stated that my original plan was, if possible, to mass my whole force against a single column of the enemy. This had been done successfully against Banks. Steele was still slowly advancing from the Little Missouri to the Prairie D'Ane. I deemed it imprudent to follow Banks below Grand Ecore and leave Steele so near Shreveport. Were I able to throw Banks across the Atchafalaya, the high water of that stream would arrest my further progress. If Red River continued to fall it seemed probable that Banks would be compelled to withdraw to Alexandria. It was hoped that the falls would detain him there until we could finish Steele, when the entire force of the department would be free to operate against him.

I confidently hoped that if I could reach Steele with my infantry to beat him at a distance from his depot, in a poor country, and with my large cavalry force destroy his army. The prize would have been the Arkansas Valley and the fortifications of Little Rock, now too strong to be taken by either siege or assault with any force at my command. By the time my infantry reached Shreveport Steele had moved by his left flank to Camden. He held the fortifications we had constructed there. They were strong.

I could not think of allowing Steele time to establish himself finally in Camden. I moved upon the place. The enemy abandoned it. I pursued, overtook, and beat him at the Saline. I failed to accomplish what I had reasonably hoped for, but succeeded in driving Steele from the valley of the Ouachita, with signal loss of men and material, and left myself free to move my entire force to the support of Taylor.

After the enemy left Grand Ecore, General Taylor attacked his rear at Cloutierville, while a part of his force held his front in check at Monett's Ferry.

General Taylor's force was too weak to warrant the hope that he could successfully impede the march of Banks' column. After the latter reached Alexandria Taylor transferred part of his command to the river below Alexandria, and with unparalleled audacity and great ability so operated on the enemy's gun-boats and transports as to compel him, with a force quadruple his own, to abandon that important position.

A temporary rise in Red River enabled Admiral Porter to get his fleet over the Falls. Had he delayed but one week longer our whole infantry would have been with Taylor.

Some idea may be formed of the character of our operations when it is stated that Walker's division, from the opening of the campaign at Simsport to the time of its arrival at Alexandria, a period of about two months, marched 700 miles and fought three pitched battles.

Information having been received that A. J. Smith's command was proceeding up the Mississippi River, I threw Marmaduke across from Camden to dispute its progress. He attacked the fleet, disabled or destroyed three of its boats, compelled it to halt and land its infantry, which he engaged for several hours.

Here ends a campaign in which, with a force of 25,000 men, all told, in the entire department, I drove back whence they came armies 60,000 strong, supported by an enormous fleet, inflicting immense loss in both men and material. It is not difficult to understand that at its close my forces required rest and reorganization.

Banks', or rather Canby's, army remained for some time at Morganza, a strongly fortified position, and occupied at this time by a large force. The Atchafalaya still afforded sufficient water for the use of gun-boats, no operations could be undertaken across that stream.

You say that I should have followed the movements of the enemy. This was simply impossible. The Nineteenth Army Corps was sent to New York or Washington. The portions of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps, under A. J. Smith, were withdrawn to Memphis, delayed, as I have said, for a few days by Marmaduke, while the Thirteenth Corps was dissolved by order of Mr. Lincoln, thus leaving in Louisiana, so far as we could ascertain, the re-enlisted men of the Thirteenth Corps and the Corps D'Afrique.

I should have mentioned that by a captured dispatch it was ascertained that the command of A. J. Smith received on the 5th of April orders to immediately join Sherman at Vicksburg. The operations of Taylor on Red River and Marmaduke on the Mississippi prevented Smith from executing this movement until the middle of June, or for a period of more than sixty days.

I had not sufficient reason to believe that there remained a large force disposable for an attack on Mobile. How could I employ my command so as to attract a large force from either Sherman or Grant, or prevent a movement on Mobile? First, no demonstration could be made on New Orleans because of the Mississippi River. Any operations in the La Fourche country would necessarily be hazardous with the enemy at Morganza; would have been barren of military results; would have ravaged a country from which we should have been obliged to withdraw whenever the water rose.

In the second place, if I had seized a point on the Mississippi River with a view of causing the enemy to send a large force to dislodge me the attempt would have failed unless I had had guns sufficiently heavy to contend with iron-clads. Had I had these my entire army would have been committed to their defense, and the ultimate result would probably have been a repetition of the Vicksburg and Port Hudson affairs.

There remained a third plan, viz, to push a large cavalry force into Missouri and support the movement by occupying my infantry in operations against Steele. Should he weaken himself to defend Saint Louis I might possibly take his works at Little Rock, Pine Bluff, and Devall's Bluff, and recover the State of Arkansas. If he proved too strong for me I would be at hand to help Price extricate himself in case of failure or disaster. This plan I was putting in execution, and had it not been for the telegrams of Generals Bragg and Lee, herewith inclosed, my infantry would have been now in the Arkansas Valley and Price would have been entering Missouri.

I have written thus at length in advance of my report, delayed by being unable to get the reports of my subordinate commanders, because I learn that my policy and plans have been much discussed at Richmond, and that it has been charged that but for my errors much more important results would have been achieved. In this connection I have only to remark that I have honestly done what appeared to me to be right and proper. I claim that my combinations have resulted in great successes, and beg to doubt whether more could have been accomplished under a different system of operations.

Certain it is that my heart overflowed with thankfulness when I realized the fact that the valor and good conduct of the officers and men of my command had enabled me to oppose and overcome the vast armies moving against me.

I care not for the censure of those who allege that I have exhibited a want of capacity. You, Mr. President, have honored me with your confidence, of which I am proud. I beg if at any time I lose this that you will relieve me of the weighty responsibilities with which I am now intrusted. I will always gladly serve in any other field or position to which you may see fit to assign me.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. A. SMITH,
Medical Director General Hospitals, Trans-Mississippi Department.

CLINTON, LA., *August 22, 1864.*
(Via Mobile.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Dispatch just received from General Taylor, dated Harrisonburg, August 18. He desires me to inform you that he considers the movement of troops across the river impracticable. Might be done five [*sic*] when the river is at its lowest stage and above Vicksburg. At present the movement simply keeps the troops attempting it idle. Wishes your further instructions on the subject as soon as possible and asks if he himself must now cross without troops.

THOMAS BUTLER.

[Inclosure No. 24.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 22, 1864.

Lieutenant-General TAYLOR,
Harrisonburg, La.:

GENERAL: You will immediately suspend the movement of the troops across the Mississippi River. The two infantry divisions under your command will be marched without delay and take position near Monroe, La., on the Ouachita. You are yourself relieved from the command, and will proceed across the Mississippi River in compliance with the telegram of General Cooper, dated Richmond, July 18, 1864, a copy of which is herewith inclosed.

By command of General E. Kirby Smith:

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[Sub-inclosure.]

MONTGOMERY, *July 22, 1864.*

Colonel GOBER, or
COMMANDING OFFICER:

Send following dispatch at once to General E. Kirby Smith:

RICHMOND, *July 18, 1864.*

General E. K. SMITH:

The President directs that you will order Lieut. Gen. Dick Taylor (if his services can be dispensed with in the Trans-Mississippi Department) to this side of the Mississippi River, with instructions to report to this office by telegraph from the nearest telegraph station in communication with Richmond.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector-General.

S. D. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. S. B. BUCKNER, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: In reply to your letter (No. 1067) dated August 20 I am directed by the general commanding to say that you had best send word at once to the command that they are not to cross the river; also, to have the men intercepted informed to the same effect, and that if they will return at once to duty no notice will be taken of their absence.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 22, 1864.

Major-General BUCKNER, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to inclose herewith the copy of a letter to Lieutenant-General Taylor,* and to direct that you make disposition for the maintenance of the troops near Monroe: that you will find a large amount of supplies can be drawn from the Ouachita and Bartholomew. Parsons' brigade has already been ordered to the District of Arkansas, and that two brigades of Major's division directed to hold themselves in readiness to march in the same direction as soon as the movement across the Mississippi had been effected. It is not advisable to take General Bagby from his division. The senior officer can command Major's division, which should move immediately in the neighborhood of Monticello, and there report to the commanding officer of the District of Arkansas. General Wharton should accompany the division and take command of all the cavalry in the District of Arkansas.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HARRISONBURG, *August 25, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. S. B. BUCKNER,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: I received last night dispatch from General Bragg, dated Richmond, August 22, as follows:

> Proceed to Meridian, the headquarters of your department, where staff and orders await you. Affairs at Mobile require prompt and immediate attention; a great need of veteran troops here. No enemy, but a few negroes, remain in New Orleans.

The following dispatch has also been received by me:

RICHMOND, *August 12, 1864.*

Capt. THOMAS BUTLER,
Aide-de-Camp:

> He should cross immediately and enter at once on his new command. He can aid the troops as well from this side as the other. Give prompt notification. His aides, adjutant-general, and inspector-general may accompany him.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

Col. I. F. Harrison, commanding Sub-District of North Louisiana, was with me last night. He submitted to me his plan, the correspond-

* Inclosure No. 24, p. 117.

ence, &c., relative to getting possession of the Federal gun-boats. A possibility exists that it may be successful. As the matter will be developed in a few days at the farthest, I shall await the result and cross such troops as it may be possible. In the meantime the forces have been removed to points where they will be in position to avail themselves of any opportunity which may present itself.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—I send you latest dispatches from other side of the river, just received.

R. T.

KIRK'S FERRY, *August 27, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. S. B. BUCKNER,
Commanding the District of Western Louisiana:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 24th instant, inclosing copies of orders from the headquarters of the Trans-Mississippi Department.

I forwarded to you from Harrisonburg, on the 25th instant, copies of dispatches from the War Department, setting forth the urgent need of veteran troops at Mobile, and at the same time I wrote you as to the possibility of effecting the movement of crossing, depending upon the success of the gun-boat scheme of Col. I. F. Harrison.

If the scheme is successful and the plan can be carried out, it will be attempted on Wednesday night, 31st instant. To-day I shall be enabled to decide as to making the attempt. Should it be abandoned to-day, the troops will move to-morrow on the road between the Ouachita and Tensas (an abandoned country) to Monroe, and if the attempt fail on Wednesday night, the troops will be in such position that they can at once move under the command of Major-General Wharton to Monroe by the route above indicated. I trust I shall see you in this vicinity before Wednesday. If the troops cannot be crossed at the time mentioned I shall at once proceed to the other side of the Mississippi River.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, September 3, 1864. (Received October 18.)

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Bragg to inclose a copy of a telegram from Lieutenant-General Taylor, dated Harrisonburg, La., August 25, 1864. You will please report any and every action you may have taken in regard to General Taylor's movements since the orders sent him from these headquarters in July last, and send copies of your orders.

I am, general, very respectfully,

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

[Inclosure.]

HARRISONBURG, LA., *August 25, 1864.*
(Via Clinton and Mobile 31st.)

General B. BRAGG:

I would have been over four weeks ago but was positively forbidden by the department commander, General E. Kirby Smith.

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, September 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Shreveport, La.:

GENERAL: I received your communication with reference to the deserters from Walker's and Polignac's divisions suggesting that it might be well to offer at once a pardon to the offenders. After visiting the troops and conferring with the commanders, I am satisfied that such a course at present would destroy the discipline of the command. The cases were more flagrant than I thought or than you have been led to suppose, amounting in at least one instance to an open mutinous outbreak under arms, encouraged, as it is believed, by a few officers. The ringleaders are being tried. In the punishment awarded it will be proper to make a distinction between the captured and those who voluntarily surrendered, and I will make that distinction in acting upon the sentences.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. B. BUCKNER,
Major-General, Commanding.

RICHMOND, VA., *September 15, 1864.*

Hon. J. P. BENJAMIN:

After an examination of the correspondence between General E. Kirby Smith and Lieut. Gen. R. Taylor, on the subject of crossing troops from the District of Western Louisiana, as requested by you, at the instance of the President, I have the honor to submit the following statement relative to the command of those troops, and especially of Walker's division:

On the 31st of July General Smith wrote to Lieutenant-General Taylor on the subject, and used the following language: "I have left it optional with General Walker to resume the command of his old division or remain in this department."

On the 1st of August General Smith wrote to General Walker suggesting the propriety of his taking temporary command of the troops to aid in the crossing of them under General Taylor, but leaving this optional with him. Of this last letter (August 1) General Taylor received no copy—it was a letter from the department to the district commander.

On the 3d of August General Walker was ordered from department headquarters to assume command of the District of Texas, New Mexico, &c. On the 8th or 9th of August Major-General Forney was ordered by General E. Kirby Smith to the command of Walker's division.

On the 12th of August General Smith wrote to General Taylor informing him that "General Forney left Shreveport this morning for the purpose of taking command of Walker's old division; and further, I (General Smith) have just received information which has led me to believe that if General Forney assumes command of that division serious difficulty will arise. If my apprehensions are well grounded, as soon as the troops reach the east bank of the Mississippi River you will relieve him from command of the division and order him to report to Richmond."

On the 14th of August Lieutenant-General Taylor wrote to General Smith, in answer to the letter of the 12th, setting forth the impropriety of placing General Forney in the command, under the circumstances, and the embarrassment which would result from carrying out General Smith's instructions in regard to that officer; also urging the policy and propriety of placing General Walker in command of the division.

Copies of these letters are in the hands of General Bragg.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILL. M. LEVY,
Asst. Adjt. and Insp. Gen., Staff of Lieutenant-General Taylor.

[Indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 15, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the President.

It seems that General Smith, after writing to General Taylor on the 31st of July, left it optional with General Walker, by his letter of the 1st of August, whether he should take command of his old division, and then on the 3d of August countermanded all he had done and sent General Walker to Texas.

J. P. BENJAMIN.

SELMA, *October 4, 1864.*

General B. BRAGG:

I have just ascertained that General E. Kirby Smith issued an order pardoning all the men who deserted from his army when ordered across the river. This after I had captured most of the deserters. Under these circumstances it seems to me to be useless to send further orders to cross the troops.

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, October 5, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

This unfortunate order renders any further attempt to cross the troops useless.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

OCTOBER 5, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President for his consideration and for instructions.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

[Third indorsement.]

OCTOBER 7, 1864.

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Require General Smith to explain his conduct. As set forth it is a premium to desertion, for the purpose of evading an order to cross the river in pursuit of the enemy, and sustains the idea of defending a section of the Confederacy at the expense of the cause for which the States are associated.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[Fourth indorsement.]

OCTOBER 10, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Address to General Smith the inquiries suggested by the President's indorsement.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

[Fifth indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 13, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General E. K. Smith for report under the indorsement of the President.

By order of Adjutant and Inspector General:

JOHN W. RIELY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Sixth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, December 6, 1864.

Respectfully returned. The within is a misrepresentation. There was no order published either by myself or any subordinate commander pardoning all or any of the men who deserted when the troops were ordered across the river. Prompt measures were taken to arrest and punish the deserters. The ringleaders were tried, convicted, and shot. In acting on any communication personal to myself from General Taylor I beg the President to remember that General Taylor's systematic misrepresentation of my motives and acts exhibit a violence and prejudice restrained neither by respect for himself nor his superiors.

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

SHREVEPORT, *October 8, 1864.*

His Excellency the PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES:

The crossing of the troops having failed after every effort, they were moved into Arkansas in support of Price's expedition into Missouri. Dispatches forwarded August 28 and September 13 explain fully. This has caused the enemy to send from Mobile and Tennessee over 20,000 men, who now occupy a menacing attitude, requiring all my force to oppose them. Canby has assumed the offensive on the Atchafalaya with a force of near 8,000, and Steele, re-enforced, is making demonstrations with over 20,000 in Arkansas. If the necessities east of the Mississippi are so urgent as to require sacrifices I would recommend that all the troops in this department be ordered across, and that no half measures be adopted endangering the loss of this department without giving substantial aid to the army east of the river.

E. K. SMITH,
General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., December 7, 1864.

General HARDEE, *Savannah:*

Transmit by the most rapid means the following dispatch to General E. Kirby Smith:

General E. KIRBY SMITH, *Shreveport:*

If practicable cross troops to aid General Hood or divert forces from operating against him in Tennessee. If crossing be impracticable, can you not make some diversion to withdraw troops of the enemy to the Trans-Mississippi? We have intelligence that Steele, with 15,000 men, had reached Memphis and was proceeding to aid Thomas, commanding the enemy's operations against Hood. The campaign in the Trans-Mississippi has ceased or been abandoned. While the enemy concentrates east of the river the co-operation of your forces should in some form avail us.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *December 24, 1864.*

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: Your letter of August 21 has been received, and also copies of your correspondence with General R. Taylor relative to crossing the Mississippi River with troops, and copies of telegrams received from officers on this side the Mississippi in regard to it. I stated to you in a telegram of August 8 that no record was to be found in my office or that of the Bureau of Orders and Correspondence of a dispatch ordering the crossing of General Taylor's infantry, though you had been called on to follow the enemy's movements as far as practicable. General Bragg being at Columbus, Ga., and aware of my views of the importance of re-enforcements from the Trans-Mississippi Department, and authorized by me to make such arrangements as the exigency of the case might require, sent a telegram to cross the infantry designated, and if practicable some others. Had your telegram of July 30 adverted to the channel of its communication it would have apprised me of the order having been issued by virtue of a general authority with which I had invested General Bragg; but neither the telegram nor your letter of August 21, replying to my telegram of August 8, afforded a clue to that fact. It was, therefore, only on subsequent investigation that the manner in which you received the order was discovered. It is to be regretted that the withdrawal of so large a portion of the army of the enemy, heretofore employed in the Trans-Mississippi Department, and their concentration against our forces on this side of the Mississippi River with such unfortunate results to us, was not either promptly met by the forwarding of re-enforcements from you, or that in the Trans-Mississippi Department such vigorous measures did not rapidly follow your victories in April as would have prevented the enemy from sending troops to re-enforce his armies elsewhere, and perhaps would have created an effectual diversion.

The events of last summer and fall are known to you. The inadequacy of the part of our forces on the east side of the Mississippi to contend with those of the enemy as now again concentrated you cannot fail to have realized, and it is hoped that you will spare no efforts to afford assistance where it is so much needed for the maintenance of the common defense. Your various promotions and assignments to high and responsible duties furnish the best evidence of my confidence in

your zeal and ability. I have not failed to appreciate the tendency of a commander whose mind is properly concentrated upon the necessities of his own position to overlook the wants which may exist elsewhere, and the possibility of his supplying them. We have one cause, one country, and the States have been confederated to unite their power for the defense of each. I no more doubt now than heretofore your earnest desire to promote the common welfare and to sacrifice every personal consideration to that end, and, as heretofore, have only sought to inform you of the public necessity, relying on your patriotism as far as was practicable to meet it. The superior numbers of the enemy render vigilance and rapid concentration peculiarly essential to our condition.

With the hope that Divine power may endow you with wisdom to see what is right, and that we may hereafter rejoice together in the final success of our country's cause, and with my best wishes for your personal welfare and happiness,

I am, very respectfully and truly, yours,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 31, 1865.*

General E. KIRBY SMITH, *Shreveport, La.:*

Since my last letter to you reiterating the proposition for you to send such force as you could spare to the east side of the Mississippi River, the enemy has continued to withdraw troops from the west to the east and is now moving a large force from Tennessee to Virginia.

Under these circumstances I think it advisable that you should be charged with military operations on both banks of the Mississippi, and that you should endeavor, as promptly as possible, to cross that river with as large a force as may be prudently withdrawn from your present department.

Please answer immediately, that I may know what to expect.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

JULY 23–24, 1864.—Operations in Randolph County, Mo., with skirmishes at Allen (23d), and at Huntsville (24th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Edwin C. Catherwood, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 2.—Lieut. Ebenezer Knapp, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. Edwin C. Catherwood, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

MACON, *July 23, 1864.*

They are fighting at Allen. I have sent 100 men to re-enforce the militia. Operator says rebel re-enforcements just coming, but will hold out.

E. C. CATHERWOOD,
Colonel, Commanding.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Ebenezer Knapp, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Glasgow, Mo., September 1, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on Saturday, July 23, 1864, while at Allen, Randolph County, Mo., in command of a detachment of forty men from this post, I was attacked by guerrillas, commanded by Bill Anderson, with nearly double my force. The attack was repelled without the loss of any men, but with the loss of 9 Government horses (killed) and 7 horses belonging to citizens, which had been pressed for the expedition. On the following day, at Huntsville, Randolph County, Mo., a second attack was made on my command, in which 3 Government horses were killed or lost and 12 horses of private citizens lost or killed. We also lost 2 men killed—John Nicholls, private, Company A, Forty-sixth Regiment Missouri State Militia, and John Daniels, private (blacksmith), of Company H, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

E. KNAPP,
Second Lieut. Company G, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

Adjutant-General THOMAS,
War Department, Washington, D. C.

JULY 23–OCTOBER 10, 1864.—Expedition to Southwestern New Mexico.

Report of Lieut. Col. Nelson H. Davis, Assistant Inspector-General, U. S. Army.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPT., DEPT. OF NEW MEXICO,
Santa Fé, N. Mex., October 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit herewith for the information of the department commander a report of the expedition recently under my command, organized pursuant to instructions from department headquarters, dated July 21, 1864, as auxiliary to, but independent of, the Apache Expedition under Col. E. A. Rigg, to scout the southwestern part of New Mexico, southeast border of Arizona, and along the boundry line between the United States and Mexico, for Indians, in which section of country it was currently believed many Apaches lived, and to which it was supposed others had fled in consequence of the campaigns against them north of the Gila River, and to examine this country with regard to its mineral, agricultural, and pastural resources, as well as for military purposes.

Leaving Santa Fé July 23, I proceeded directly to Las Cruces, N. Mex., and Franklin, Tex., and made upon Col. G. W. Bowie, commanding District of Arizona, and Maj. William McCleave, district quartermaster, requisitions for troops, employés, supplies, transportation, &c., necessary to organize and fit out the expedition, which were promptly and satisfactorily met. The entire force was comprised of detachments which came from San Elizario and Franklin, Tex., from Las Cruces and Camp Mimbres, N. Mex., consisting of the following detail, viz: Capt. J. H. Whitlock and thirty-two

enlisted men of his company (F), Fifth California Volunteers; Second Lieut. R. Hudson, Fifth California Volunteers, and thirty-five enlisted men of Company B, same regiment; Second Lieut. J. F. Hutchinson, First California Cavalry (acting assistant quartermaster and assistant commissary of subsistence), and sixteen enlisted men of Companies A, F, G, and M, same regiment; Asst. Surg. J. Q. Adams, U. S. Volunteers; citizen employés as teamsters, herders, guides, &c., which assembled at Fort Cummings, Cook's Springs, August 5, and on the following day took up its line of march en route as follows: South to the Florida Mountains; thence south-southeast to the Ojos los Adjuntos (Palomas Springs); thence west-northwest to Carrizalillo Spring; thence nearly south to Mosquito Springs; thence south-southwest to Alamo Hueco Mountains, and to the springs of the same name on the west side of this range. Here the wagons with a guard, under Lieutenant Hutchinson, remained in camp, and two detachments with pack animals were organized. With one under Lieutenant Hudson I proceeded north to and along the west slope of Hatchet Mountain to the north end, and ascended this mountain, while Captain Whitlock and Doctor Adams with the other detachment proceeded west-northwest to, crossed the Sierra de las Animas Mountains to the west side of this range and to its north end, and on the sixth day these detachments assembled at the wagon camp, moved fifteen miles southwest from Alamo Hueco Spring as previously ordered. From here with Captain Whitlock and a detachment I proceeded to the La Sierra de los Espuelos (Spur Mountains), fourteen miles distant, nearly southwest. After returning to camp the entire command moved south-southwest to La Sierra de la Media (Middle Mountain); thence nearly southeast to Palotada River. From here with Lieutenant Hutchinson and a small detachment, leaving the remainder of the force in camp, I proceeded, accompanied by Don Juan M. Zubiran, nearly south nine miles to Janos, and thence to Corralitos to obtain supplies, a competent guide, and procure information respecting Indians and the country in this vicinity.

Don José Maria Zuloago, the proprietor of the fine hacienda of Corralitos (many leagues of land in addition, three silver mines being actively worked), is a gentleman of education, intelligence, and refinement, and gave us a friendly reception. He cheerfully furnished the supplies required, together with much interesting information relative to the Apache Indians and that section of country. It is with pleasure, as well as from a sense of duty and justice to Mr. Zuloago, that I state the complaints made against him of selling powder and lead to Indians are, to the best of my belief, without foundation in fact, and were made upon incorrect representations. Having almost absolute authority and jurisdiction over this part of the State of Chihuahua, he not only does not sell these articles to Indians, but strictly prohibits, so far as he is able so to do, others from selling them. It is for his interest, and he is anxious to have the hostile Apaches subdued or exterminated, since his losses from their predatory raids and the expense incurred from constantly keeping armed a large number of men incident to their hostility, to protect his mines, trains, and stock, amount, as I was informed, to several thousand dollars annually. He expresses himself desirous of co-operating, so far as he is able, with the department commander of New Mexico in such measures as will subdue this savage and hostile nation of Apaches.

Don Juan M. Zubiran, who had accompanied me on the expedition to this point, and besides being a most genial companion, rendered material aid as interpreter, and in obtaining information of interest and

value. His services are appreciated. Business demands obliged him to separate from me at this place and return to El Paso, much to my regret.

The convictions I had entertained of the deceptions and treachery of my guide, Julio Garcia, were confirmed by information gleaned here and at Janos. On returning to camp on Janos River, to which point it had been moved as ordered, I found that this culprit guide had deserted. Another guide was employed (the best to be had), but who was imperfectly acquainted with localities I wished to examine. From this camp the entire command moved via Janos down this river, which it followed until near the Boca Grande Mountains, where a wagon camp was established. Lieutenant Hudson, with a detachment, directed to examine these mountains; Lieutenant Hutchinson and two men sent to Fort Cummings and Camp Mimbres for infantry shoes, sole leather for repairing the same, horse and mule shoe nails, &c., while with Captain Whitlock, Doctor Adams, and a detachment I proceeded via this river to Lake Guzman and the El Ojo Caliente, four miles west of it, and thence nearly northwest and west-northwest through the range of mountains west of said lake to Janos River; thence nearly west, via the Alamo Hueco Range, and west-northwest to Sulphur Springs, four miles west of Hatchet Mountain, to which point Lieutenant Hudson had moved, via Mosquito Springs, with the wagons, and Lieutenant Hutchinson returned as directed, Doctor Adams, with a detachment, having proceeded from the river northwest and joined Lieutenant Hudson at the last-named springs.

From Sulphur Springs, with Captain Whitlock and a detachment, I proceeded north eight miles to Agua Hueco Mountains; thence north-northwest along their west slope; crossed through the range to east side, and thence around north end and west to the wagon camp there established as ordered. In the meantime the other portion of the command moved northwest and north-northwest to the Los Ojos Hermosos (Beautiful Springs), whence Lieutenant Hudson with a detachment proceeded to a mountain range north of La Sierra de las Animas; after which he moved as stated to last-named camp. Several days of wet weather, including one very heavy rain-storm, had rendered the ground soft and miry, and the rations on hand being only sufficient to take my command to the nearest military post, I proceeded thence east via Carrizalillo Spring, and north-northeast via the Florida Mountains to Fort Cummings, N. Mex., whence the different detachments were ordered to their proper stations, and I repaired to Santa Fé as directed, arriving on the 10th instant.

The distance marched by the troops comprising this expedition, from the time of leaving their respective stations until returning to the same, was, by daily computation, 1,200 miles. The scout was long, hot, and in many respects a hard and tedious one. All of the mountains mentioned, with their cañons, the intermediate plains or valleys, and water localities, with Lake Guzman and its adjacent country, were examined and searched for Indians. The ascent of Hatchet Mountain to its crowning pinnacle, the most lofty in this region of country, proved a hot, arduous, and dangerous undertaking. The ascent of other mountains, and nightly examinations of rocky cañons, were but little less arduous and difficult. Many night marches were made and every effort taken to surprise Indians at these various places, should any be living or encamped there, but contrary to the general belief and report, this vast section of country, with one excep-

tion, was deserted by the wily Apache; that formerly they had occupied it in large numbers, the many hard and well-beaten trails that chequered the plains, threaded the cañons, and crossed the mountains in all directions, with the numerous abandoned and dilapidated rancherias, containing relics of booty and plunder, gave ample proof. The exception was a band of Indians in Agua Hueco Range, and an occupied rancheria in the mountains last examined by Lieutenant Hudson, which parties I have reason to believe, from the dispositions of my forces previously ordered, would have been surprised and severely chastised but for want of information withheld by my guide, Garcia, his willful falsehoods, unpardonable and base treachery. In this connection I respectfully but urgently request that requisitions be made upon the Governors of Chihuahua and Sonora for the apprehension and surrender to the military authorities of the United States of this culprit and traitor, that he may be tried and punished.

The cause of the abandonment of this section of country by the Apache may be its general dryness, the absence of stock on which to depredate, but is principally due to the moral terror with which the American soldier with their "long arms" have inspired him, and the fear of being killed or captured, owing to the vigorous and successful war which has been prosecuted against the Apaches and Navajos in this military department for the last two years. The bands break into small parties, remaining with their families a short time only in one place, and then generally upon high mountain or hill ranges distant from the water, which is required and carried thither by the squaws. At the rancherias occupied as stated the Indians barely escaped us, fleeing through the mountains in various directions, which we examined as they were pursued. One only was killed so far as known.

Every assistance, with the fatigues and privations of the campaign, was cheerfully rendered and borne by officers and men in the desire to accomplish the objects of the expedition.

An almost unlimited extent of fine grazing country was passed over, sufficiently well watered to supply the wants of stock, and large areas of good arable land, being of an argillaceous, argillo-arenaceous, but more generally of an alluvial character, and, from the absence of running water for the purposes of irrigation, is indifferently adapted to cultivation. There is a good supply of wood and timber on Hatchet, Las Animas, Los Espuelos, La Media, and Boca Grande Mountains, and some on the Floridas and Alamo Hueco. The mesquite, sage, greese wood, and palm exist in sufficient quantity upon the rolling plains and in the valleys to meet the ordinary wants for firewood. The valleys are separated by the mountain ranges, which bear generally north and south, but some of them have a lateral variation more or less to the east and west. A knowledge of the water localities is of the first importance to one traveling through this section of country, as they necessarily influence the routes taken and the drives or marches made daily. The permanent water consists of living springs, tinajos (rainwater collected in rocky cañons or arroyos), and estanques (water of some character collected in basins in similar localities or in the valley, but in larger volumes). Occasionally running water is found in cañon arroyos.

The following is a brief description of the principal watering places visited on my expedition, to wit: Tinajas east side north end Florida Mountains, in rocky arroyo, easily accessible, and twenty miles from Fort Cummings; water good, wood scarce, grazing fair. Blackberry

Spring, ten miles south last water, and east side same range, in mouth of cañon, easily accessible; water good, wood sufficient, grazing fair. Tinaja south end same range, three miles up a rough cañon, bad of access, and ten miles from last water; water good, of limited quantity, wood and grazing good. Palamos Springs, in valley, being collection of several very large springs or ponds, twenty-four miles from Blackberry Spring; water in some good, in others alkaline; wood scarce, grazing fair. Carrizalillo Spring, in rolling ground near mountain range, twenty-six miles from last springs; water good and abundant, little wood, grazing good. Mosquito Springs, in valley, twenty-four miles from last spring; water excellent, and abundant, wood abundant, grazing ordinary. Estanques in cañons in Alamo Hueco Mountains, sixteen miles from last springs, cañons rough, and high and steep ridges to cross; water, wood, and grazing good. Alamo Hueco Spring, west side, north end of this range, same distance from Mosquito Spring; water good and abundant, wood abundant, and grazing good. Estanques; in grassy arroyo, on plain east of Spur Mountains, fifteen miles from last spring; water abundant and good, wood several miles distant, grazing good, water in holes three miles east. Arroyo Creek, east slope Spur Mountain, fourteen miles from last water, running stream of excellent water; wood abundant, grazing indifferent. Tinaja west side Sierra de la Media, one mile up rough cañon, very difficult of access; water good, wood abundant, grazing good; fourteen miles from last estanques. Paletada River, in valley of rolling plain, seventeen miles from last tinaja; water abundant, in large detached pools, and good, wood abundant, grazing good; this river in high water runs into the Janos River. Hence to the town of Janos, on river of same name, is nine miles. This river sinks in places and after its confluence with the Corralitos River, some four miles east of the town of Janos, preserves the same name; thence to Lake Guzman it generally is a sluggish stream, winding through a very rich bottom of dark, rich soil, but ceases to be a running stream ere reaching the lake. In high water much of the bottom is overflowed. Lake Guzman, when at it, consisted merely of detached pools or lagunas, small in extent, marshy ground, and sloughs, being mouths of Janos River. Ojo Caliente, four miles west, is a large spring, temperature about 120°, impregnated slightly with sulphur and alkaline in taste. Corralitos Valley is rich and productive. Sulphur Springs, consists of four, twenty-five miles from Mosquito Springs, and four miles west of Hatchet Mountain; water excellent, two of the springs being sulphur water, wood abundant, grazing fair. Sycamore Spring, west side north end De las Animas Range, is a large spring producing a creek, and some twenty-four miles from last springs; wood and timber abundant, grazing good, and water excellent; Cook's emigrant road from Cow Spring passes by it. Los Ojos Hermosos, consists of several springs, in the valley between the last named and Agua Hueco range of mountains, and are north twenty-one miles from Sulphur Springs; water excellent, wood sufficient, grazing fair. La Playa, east of these springs, and extending several miles north and south, contained in places some water. Agua Hueco Springs, in range of same name, are twenty-six miles from Carrizalillo Spring; water abundant and excellent, wood abundant, grazing good. Carrizalillo Spring, water abundant and excellent, wood abundant, grazing good; Carrizalillo Spring by the most direct route is thirty miles from Blackberry Spring.

Besides the water localities above enumerated there are several others of a less permanent character. A portion of the country passed over was of an auriferous and argentiferous character, and from report, as well as the indications exhibited from examination, I have reason to believe that at a future day good gold placers and silver mines will be discovered in this part of New Mexico and profitably worked. Specimens of ore from several localities were secured and brought in. Of what value they will prove tests expected soon to be made of them will discover. Our constant movements in search for Indians with the means at hand afforded little time and indifferent facilities for prospecting the mineral localities to much extent. The color was found in one or two instances when a superficial prospect for gold was made.

Should circumstances make it advisable to establish a military post in the southwest portion of New Mexico, I think at or in the vicinity of Sycamore Spring is the point which, from its strategical position relative to Indian movements, and the facilities for obtaining supplies requisite for a post, possesses the best recommendations. Bears, deer, antelope, &c., were seen, and some killed by the men when they were allowed to shoot them. Rattlesnakes innumerable infest the land, visited our camps, struck at us en route in the day, and by their defiant rattles warned us of their presence at night in our silent marches. Tarantulas, centipedes, and scorpions were not unfrequent.

In conclusion I simply add that my command returned in good health and the animals in as good condition as when I received them.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

N. H. DAVIS,
Assistant Inspector-General, U. S. Army.

Capt. B. C. CUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of New Mexico.

JULY 25–26, 1864.—Scout from Fulton, Mo.

Report of Charles D. Ludwig, Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HDQRS. EIGHTH SUB-DISTRICT OF NORTH MISSOURI,
OFFICE ASSISTANT PROVOST-MARSHAL,
Fulton, Mo., July 28, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report to you that on the 25th instant I learned that a gang of bushwhackers visited the house of Dr. J. M. Martin at 12.30 p. m. and demanded the surrender of the United States flag which was floating from the top of the house. I immediately sent out a scout under A. Kempinsky, who caught up with them on the 26th, in the morning, and killed the notorious bushwhacker Capt. William Hancock and wounded Frank Ramsey, another leader of bushwhackers, capturing a horse, saddle and bridle, and a revolver. I had the honor to report this already to General Fisk.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. D. LUDWIG,
Assistant Provost-Marshal.

Col. J. P. SANDERSON,
Prov. Mar. Gen., Dept. of the Missouri, Saint Louis, Mo.

JULY 25–AUGUST 11, 1864.—Scout in Yell County, Ark., with skirmishes.

Report of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

LEWISBURG, *August 11, 1864—8 a. m.*

Captain Herring has returned from an eighteen days' scout in Yell County; killed the two Newsom brothers. Reports that the rebels are running conscripts, negroes, and captured and stolen property south by way of Centre Point and Caddo Gap.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JULY 25–OCTOBER 8, 1864.—Expedition against Sioux Indians in Dakota Territory.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

July 28, 1864.—Action at the Tahkahokuty Mountain.
Aug. 8–9, 1864.—Action on the Little Missouri River.

REPORTS.*

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. John Pope, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the Northwest.
No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Alfred Sully, U. S. Army, commanding Northwestern Indian Expedition.
No. 3.—Lieut. Col. Samuel M. Pollock, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, First Brigade.
No. 4.—Lieut. Col. John Pattee, Seventh Iowa Cavalry.
No. 5.—Maj. Alfred B. Brackett, Brackett's Minnesota Battalion Cavalry.
No. 6.—Capt. Nelson Miner, First Battalion Dakota Cavalry.
No. 7.—Capt. Christian Stufft, Independent Company of Indian Scouts.
No. 8.—Capt. Nathaniel Pope, Prairie Battery.
No. 9.—Col. Minor T. Thomas, Eighth Minnesota Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.
No. 10.—Lieut. Col. Henry C. Rogers, Eighth Minnesota Infantry.
No. 11.—Maj. George A. Camp, Eighth Minnesota Infantry.
No. 12.—Col. Robert N. McLaren, Second Minnesota Cavalry.
No. 13.—Maj. C. Powell Adams, Independent Battalion Minnesota Cavalry.

No. 1.

Reports of Maj. Gen. John Pope, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the Northwest.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE NORTHWEST,
Milwaukee, Wis., October 6, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit by this mail detailed reports of General Sully, recounting the operations of his expedition from July 28 (the date of his first battle on Knife River with combined tribes of Sioux) to September 11.

You will perceive that at the crossing of the Little Missouri, on his route to the Yellowstone, Sully had another severe battle, at which the

* See also expedition from Fort Rice, Dak., September 11–30, 1864, p. 795.

Indians were beaten with heavy loss and totally dispersed, the bands from the north and east side of the Missouri (principally Yanktonais) having deserted their allies and taken temporary refuge in very destitute condition within the British possessions. Sully followed them after crossing the Missouri at mouth of the Yellowstone to near the British line. At last dates from Fort Rice messengers from the Yanktonais had reached there to see General Sully and ask for peace. Reports via Pembina confirm the destitute condition of the Sioux who fought Sully, some of whom had already reached the English settlements on Red River, and held conferences with the British officials. The Indians are in a desperate condition. I have little doubt that Sully will arrange a satisfactory peace with them. It is not likely that they will again give trouble on any considerable scale to the frontier settlements. Small raids may from time to time be attempted by small parties of desperate Indians for robbery or theft, but there are forces enough along the frontier to give all necessary protection, even in the absence of the two regiments I am sending South.

I will, in a few weeks, make a careful résumé of operations in this department during the past season and present in detail the precise condition of our Indian relations in their present and future aspect. Meantime there are several points in the inclosed communications,* especially in those of the 9th and 11th of September, to which I desire to invite your particular attention.

First. As to the expedition of Captain Fisk, assistant quartermaster, under a special appropriation of Congress. The complaints against this officer by General Sully are simply a repetition of the same statements made by General Sibley as to his conduct last year while conducting an expedition of the same character. General Sibley then predicted that Captain Fisk would eventually be cut off by the Indians, as he was both too reckless and too ignorant to be trusted. He manifested the same disrespect and used the same disrespectful language in regard to General Sibley that General Sully now reports in regard to himself. As Captain Fisk is beyond my control, I trust that the War Department will take such action in his case as the gross military offenses charged against him by Generals Sully and Sibley warrant. General Sully states that his present expedition consists simply of men running away from the draft. I request your attention to General Sully's letters of the 9th and 11th of September for an account of this whole matter, and of the serious results to the Government which may arise from the conduct of Captain Fisk.

Second. Attention is invited to the conduct of the half-breeds and other English subjects, who are continually coming into United States territories, encouraging the Indians to continue the war against United States citizens and furnishing them (the Indians) with ammunition and supplies for that purpose. I have several times asked the attention of the Government to this subject. It is sufficiently clear that unless such practices are stopped, the Indian, having constant encouragement to commit hostilities, a safe place of refuge and supplies of ammunition and provisions, is not likely to make peace, and can only be prevented from committing hostilities within our borders by the employment of large forces at great expense along our whole northern frontier. The English authorities are directly accountable for these results, by giving refuge to Indians at war with the United States and by refusing to control them or to permit the United States forces to follow them into British territory.

* See Sully's report, p. 141.

Third. General Sully's statements concerning the present system of annuities to Indians and the manner of paying them in use by the Indian Department are worthy of careful attention, as confirming the views I have hitherto laid before the Department on this subject. General Sully found the country between Fort Rice and the Yellowstone too difficult ever to be traversed by trains, in fact nearly impracticable. He accordingly established a post at the mouth of the Yellowstone and one at the old trading post of Fort Berthold. These posts, in connection with Fort Rice, will render secure the navigation of the Missouri River and the overland line of travel by the valley of that river.

Further details will be given in my annual report, as also my purposes for the protection of the region between the Platte and the Upper Missouri and Yellowstone. It will probably be necessary to establish a considerable post in the Black Hills, and one on Powder River. Of these matters I will communicate more fully hereafter.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. POPE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff of the Army, Washington, D. C.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE NORTHWEST,
Milwaukee, Wis., November 3, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of operations in this department during the past year:

The two great Indian nations which occupy this military department are the Chippewas, who inhabit the region between Lake Superior and Rainy Lake River on the east and the Red River of the North on the west, and the powerful Sioux or Dakota Nation, which, divided into several strong and warlike tribes, claims and roams over the vast region from the western frontier of Minnesota on the east to the Rocky Mountains on the west, and from the frontier of Iowa and the line of the Platte River on the south to the British possessions on the north. There are some small fragments of tribes on the Upper Missouri who belong to neither nation, but they are few in number, insignificant in strength or influence, and have always been at peace with the whites. With the Chippewas there have been no difficulties which have led to hostilities, although there have been and continue to be the constant misunderstanding, dissatisfaction, and controversy which naturally arise under our defective Indian system between the Indians on the one side and Indian agents and traders on the other. So far these difficulties have not culminated in actual hostilities, but unless the Indian system be remodeled they are likely to do so at any moment. The war up to this time has been entirely confined to the Sioux Nation. It will be remembered that the campaign of last year terminated, so far as field operations were concerned, with the defeat of the Sioux by General Sully near the James River on the 3d of September, 1863. The high latitude of the theater of war in this department, the immense region of uninhabited country covered by military operations, and the vast distances from the frontier to be traversed before the enemy can be reached, of necessity very much shorten the season during which it is possible to carry on actual field operations.

After reaching the Indian country not more than three months are left in which it is practicable to keep troops in the field. The oper-

ations of last year ended with such defeats of the Indians occupying the vast regions east of the Missouri River as forced them for a time to take refuge in the British possessions, and relieved the entire frontier settlements of Minnesota, Iowa, and Dakota from any danger of Indian hostilities. During last winter, however, the whole Dakota Nation, from the Rocky Mountains to the Minnesota frontier, and from the Platte River and the Iowa line to the British possessions on the north, succeeded in combining their various and scattered tribes for a final effort against the whites, and by the opening of spring had slowly concentrated their whole force on and near the Upper Missouri, to resist the navigation of the Missouri River, prevent the passage of emigrants across the great plains, and to deliver, with their combined forces, a final battle against the United States troops under General Sully. This Indian force was then estimated by competent authorities, and so reported by me to the War Department early in the spring, at about 6,000 warriors, and this estimate was subsequently confirmed by General Sully, after his battles with them near the Little Missouri. It was also reported at the time, and has been confirmed since by undoubted testimony, that ammunition and other necessary supplies were brought to the Indian camps during the winter by half-breeds and traders from the British settlements on the Red River of the North. It is hardly necessary for me to repeat what I have so often reported, that Indian hostilities in this department have been fomented and encouraged, and the Indians supplied with the means to continue the war, by the half-breeds and other British subjects of the Selkirk settlements. As I was satisfied that this combination of the whole of the numerous and widely dispersed tribes of the Sioux (or Dakota) Nation, who occupy the vast region north of the Platte, and the northern boundaries of Iowa from the Rocky Mountains to the vicinity of the Great Lakes, would be the final effort of the great Indian nation to continue hostilities against the whites, and as I felt sure that if once their entire force of warriors could be met and defeated, this Indian war in the northwest on any considerable scale would be closed, preparations for an active campaign during the summer of 1864 were made during the close of last winter. The plan of operations consisted in putting into the field, under the command of Brig. Gen. A. Sully, an active column of about 2,500 men, entirely cavalry, to advance against the Indians wherever they could be found, and deliver battle with them, and at the same time to follow up the movement of this force with detachments of infantry large enough to establish strong posts in the Indian country. These posts were so located as to cover the frontier of Iowa and Minnesota and the frontier settlements of Dakota Territory, at a long distance; to interpose between the different tribes, so as to prevent concerted action; to command the hunting grounds of the Indians so that they would be constantly under the supervision and in the power of the military forces, which by concerted action could easily and promptly march a heavy force of cavalry upon any portion of the region in which the Indians are obliged to hunt for subsistence; to command the Indian trails toward the frontier settlements, so as to detect the passage even of the smallest parties attempting to make raids upon the settlers, and to follow them up, and so far as military necessities would allow, to protect an emigrant route from the Upper Mississippi River to the Territories of Idaho and Montana.

The details of this plan of operations were submitted to you and approved in February last, and immediate preparations made to carry them into execution. General Sully collected the forces under his com-

mand, from the various posts and stations in his district, early in the spring, and commenced to move up the Missouri River, leaving only such detachments as were necessary to cover the frontier from small Indian raids during his absence. He was re-enforced by about 1,500 mounted men from Minnesota, leaving General Sibley with about 700 effective men to protect the frontier settlements of Minnesota during the summer.

The mouth of Burdache Creek, on the Upper Missouri, was selected as the point where the Minnesota troops should join the forces of General Sully moving up the Missouri, and the junction of these forces was made on the 30th of June. The spring rise in the Missouri River did not come down until very late in the season, and Sully only reached the mouth of Cannon Ball River, at which point he was to establish a strong post, which was to be his depot of supplies, on the 7th of July. He established Fort Rice at that point, distant from Sioux City 450 miles, and garrisoned it with five companies of the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteers. The Indians, who had been concentrated on and near the Missouri River about fifty miles above this post, had meantime crossed to the southwest side of the river and occupied a strong position in a very difficult country near the Little Missouri River, due west, and about 200 miles from Fort Rice.

On the 26th of July General Sully marched upon these Indians with the following forces: Eighth Minnesota Volunteers (mounted) and six companies of Second Minnesota Cavalry, with four light guns, under command of Col. M. T. Thomas, Eighth Minnesota Volunteers; eleven companies Sixth Iowa Cavalry, three companies Seventh Iowa Cavalry, two companies Dakota cavalry, four companies Brackett's battalion cavalry, one small company of scouts, and four mountain howitzers, all under command of ———, numbering in all 2,200 men. A small emigrant train for Idaho, which had accompanied the Minnesota troops from that State, followed the movement of Sully's force. At the head of Heart River he corraled his trains, and, leaving a sufficient guard with them, he marched rapidly to the northwest, to the point where the combined forces of the Indians were assembled. On the morning of July 28 he came upon them, between 5,000 and 6,000 warriors, strongly posted in a wooded country, very much cut up with high, rugged hills, and deep, impassable ravines. He had an hour's talk with some of the Indian chiefs, who were very defiant and impudent, after which he moved rapidly forward against their strong position. The action for a time was sharp and severe, but the artillery and long-range small-arms of the troops were very destructive, and the Indians began to give way on all sides. They were so closely pressed by Sully's forces that they abandoned their extensive camps, leaving all their robes, lodges, colts, and utensils of every description, and all the winter supply of provisions which they had been so long collecting. The action resulted in a running fight of nine miles, the Indians finally scattering completely, and escaping with nothing but their wounded, which, according to the Indian custom, they carried off, as also as many of their killed as they could. One hundred and twenty-five dead warriors were left on the field.

I have transmitted heretofore the reports of General Sully and of the various commanders of his force, as also a statement of the immense quantity of Indian goods and supplies destroyed by General Sully in the captured camp of the Indians. Finding the country nearly impracticable, having only a small supply of provisions or means to carry them, and ascertaining that the retreat of the mass of the Indians was

toward the southwest, Sully returned to his train at the head of Heart River, and resumed his march westward through an unknown and unexplored region toward the Yellowstone, which he expected to reach near Fort Alexander, at which point it had been proposed to establish a military post. On the 5th of August he came in sight of the Bad Lands, which border the Little Missouri on both sides. The country was exceedingly rugged and difficult, and so cut up with deep perpendicular ravines that it was with the utmost labor and loss of time that a narrow, winding way between the ravines in places barely ten feet wide was found for his wagons. I cannot convey a better idea of the country than is contained in the following extract from Sully's report, which will be full of interest to the scientific world:

I have not sufficient power of language to describe the country in front of us. It was grand, dismal, and majestic. You can imagine a basin, 600 feet deep and twenty-five miles in width, filled with a number of cones and oven-shaped knolls of all sizes, from twenty-five to several hundred feet high, sometimes by themselves, sometimes piled up into large heaps on top of each other, in all conceivable shapes and confusion. Most of these hills were of a gray clay, but many of a light brick color, of burnt clay; little or no vegetation. Some of the sides of the hills, however, were covered with a few scrub cedars. Viewed in the distance at sunset it looked exactly like the ruins of an ancient city. I regret very much that some gentleman well acquainted with geology and mineralogy did not accompany the expedition, for we marched through a most wonderful and interesting country. It was covered with pieces of petrified wood, and on the tops of some of the hills we found petrified stumps of trees, the remains of a great forest. In some cases these trees were sixteen to eighteen feet in diameter. Large quantities of iron ore, lava, and impressions of leaves in the rocks of a size and shape not known to any of us.

In this difficult and almost impassable region a portion of the Indians whom Sully had defeated on the 28th of July attempted to offer resistance, but were badly defeated, leaving over 100 dead on the field. After this hopeless effort, in which General Sully reports that they exhibited none of the spirit and audacity which characterized the fight on the 28th of July, the Indians scattered and broke up their combination entirely. The Tetons separated into small fragments, fled toward the southwest; the Yanktonais, with other confederated tribes from the north and east sides of the Missouri, crossed the Missouri River, and retreated rapidly into the British possessions by way of Mouse River. General Sully followed them nearly to the British line. Finding the country west of Fort Rice in the direction of the Yellowstone impracticable for wagon roads, Sully decided not to establish a post so high up on that river, but placed a garrison at mouth of Yellowstone and another at the trading post of Fort Berthold, lower down on the Missouri River. These posts, in connection with Fort Rice, will keep open the Missouri River, render travel along the valley secure, and separate the Indian tribes, so that another concentration will be impracticable, even should the Indians seek it. Sully returned slowly by way of the Missouri River valley to Fort Rice. After leaving that post well garrisoned and in good condition, and sending the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteers to the Mississippi to go south to Sherman's army, Sully came slowly down to Sioux City, where his last dispatches are dated. To Fort Randall and also to Fort Pierre chiefs of the combined Sioux tribes which he had defeated came in and asked for peace, acknowledging that they could not fight against the whites, that they had lost everything, robes, lodges, provisions, &c., and would be in a starving condition. They were informed by the commanding officers of those posts that the only conditions of peace required from them were that they would behave themselves and not molest the whites. The Indians were both surprised and gratified that peace on such easy terms was to

be had, and immediately returned to their tribes to bring in the principal chiefs to meet General Sully at Fort Randall. It is expected that peace with all the tribes west of the Missouri River, on terms entirely satisfactory to the Government, will be made this winter; a peace which involves neither presents nor annuities of any description, but a peace simply based upon good behavior. With the Yanktonais and other Sioux tribes north and east of the Missouri there will be somewhat longer delay in coming to satisfactory terms. About half these Indians desire to make peace at once, but there are many who wish to keep up the war. These last are encouraged in their purpose by half-breeds and other British subjects, and as they have a safe refuge in the British possessions, and are there supplied with means to carry on hostilities, it will probably require the hardships and privations of a winter in those arctic regions to bring them to their senses. They took refuge there after the battles in a perfectly destitute condition, and are already beginning to rob and plunder, and in places to commit murder in the English settlements. They will soon become as odious and dangerous to the British settlements as they have been to our own. By spring most likely everything will be satisfactorily settled. As matters stand, and are likely to stand this winter, however, with these Indians, there is no manner of danger to the frontier settlements of Minnesota or Dakota. The Indians are driven far away, and a cold, barren, and bleak prairie region, many hundred miles in extent, and impassable in winter, interposes between them and the frontier settlements. In Minnesota there have been no active operations, there being no hostile Indians, except a few straggling thieves east of the Missouri River. With the small force under his command judiciously posted General Sibley has kept everything quiet on the Minnesota border, nor is there ever again the likelihood of any Indian hostilities from Sioux on the Minnesota frontier, beyond such small thieving raids as are incident to the situation, and must always occur so long as there are Indians on our western borders. With these, should they occur, a small force will be able to deal conclusively.

For details, of which the foregoing report is a brief summary, I have the honor to refer you to the reports of Generals Sully and Sibley herewith and heretofore transmitted.

In some manner the British Government should either prevent hostile Indians who reside within the boundaries of the United States from seeking refuge in British territory, or should secure the United States against the raids of such Indians, or should permit the United States forces to pursue into British territory all Indians who belong south of the line and who are at war with citizens of the United States. One of these three demands is certainly reasonable, and will effect the desired purpose. In the same connection it will be necessary to prohibit half-breeds and other British subjects from coming into the territory of the United States to trade with Indians, whether hostile to us or not, who live south of the British line. The hostile Sioux have for the past two years been supplied with ammunition, provisions, &c., to carry on hostilities against the United States by British subjects, both in their own territory and in ours. A state of hostility between the Sioux and citizens of the United States of course throws all the trade with such Indians into the hands of British traders, hence the anxiety of those traders to prevent peace with the Sioux Indians.

I have the honor again to ask attention to my letter of February 6, 1864,* to the Secretary of War, on the subject of our Indian system,

*See Vol. XXXIV, Part II, p. 259.

and to beg, in view of the interests of the Government, as well as of humanity, that such legislative or executive action be recommended as will as far as practicable correct the evils therein set forth. I transmit inclosed a copy of that letter and a copy of trade regulations with Indians, which I have heretofore forwarded, and which I deem necessary to protect white men and Indians alike against Indian traders. It is my purpose, by forcing all traders with Indians to locate their trading posts in the immediate vicinity of the military posts, and nowhere else, to make these military posts the nuclei of extensive Indian camps, and as far as possible to induce the Indians to make their permanent homes so near to the posts that they will constantly be under the supervision and control of the garrisons. If there be no other places to trade except the military posts the Indian will necessarily resort to them, and will there remain, except when he is engaged in hunting during the summer season. If fair dealing with the Indians can be enforced there never will be danger of any Indian wars. The object of these trade regulations is to secure these two results; but unless they are adopted and enforced by military authority we cannot hope for any permanent peace with the Indian tribes. The regulations themselves are so full, and their object so manifest, that it is unnecessary to go further into details concerning them. The only other white men I would permit to have intercourse with the Indians are the missionaries. I trust that some arrangements will be made with the authorities of our home missionary societies to furnish to each military post good practical men, with their families, whose business shall be to teach the Indians the useful arts of life—the Indian men to cultivate the soil, the Indian women to sew and to do such other work as they are fitted for, and all to keep themselves clean and decent. These are the first lessons to be taught to Indians. Religious instruction will come afterward in its natural order. The failure of our missionaries among Indians is due, I think, mainly to the fact that they have reversed the proper order of instruction, and have attempted to make the Indian a member of the church while he was still a wild savage. Of course, if anything is to be gained by it, the Indian will profess his belief in anything whatever, without the slightest knowledge or concern as to what it all means. What is needed to civilize or christianize Indians are practical common-sense men, who will first teach them to be human and to acquire the arts of civilized life; who will educate, as far as can be done, the children of the Indians, and who will be content to look to the future, and not to the immediate present, for results. Such missionaries could be of incalculable benefit to the Indian, and to the Government; and I would recommend that whenever such men are sent to the military posts on the frontier the Government furnish them with quarters and with rations, at the rate of two small families for each one of the larger posts, and for one small family for each smaller post. I have no doubt that these small missions at each post, if conducted by practical and earnest men, would greatly add to the hope of permanent peace with the Indians, and contribute to a healthy and increasing improvement in the moral and physical condition of the Indian tribes. The military commanders will be instructed to give every assistance and encouragement to such missionaries, and to enjoin upon the officers and soldiers under their command, that they exhibit toward the missionaries every respect and kindness. The peace which will be made with Indians, under the instructions I have given to Generals Sully and Sibley, is based simply upon the understanding that the Indians on the one hand behave themselves and do not molest the whites, and on the other hand that the whites shall be made to deal fairly with the

Indians and not molest them in any way. The military authorities undertake to enforce good conduct on both sides, and will have the power, if not interfered with, to do so thoroughly. As such a peace involves neither annuities nor presents, and holds out no prospect in violating it, except hostilities, it will probably be lasting. Hitherto it has been the practice to accompany every treaty of peace made by Indian agents with expensive presents of goods and supplies of various kinds, and the Indians naturally understand that these are given them as bribes to keep the peace and because the whites are afraid of them; and, of course, they observe such treaties only as long as they find it convenient, or until they need a further supply of presents (ammunition, goods, &c.). In fact, it has been for years a saying with the Sioux along the great mail route to California, that whenever they became poor and needed blankets and powder and lead, they had only to go down to this great mail and emigrant route, and kill a few white people and there would be another treaty of peace, which would supply all their wants.

It is beyond question that such a system of treaty-making is, of all others, the most impolitic, whether negotiated with savage or civilized people, and leads in either case to constant and increasing hostilities. I intend, in settling a peace with Indians in this department, to do away entirely with this system, which, aside from its effect in stimulating and encouraging breaches of treaties of peace, is always attended with fraud upon the Government and upon the Indians.

I shall send up in the spring some companies of cavalry to make a cantonment for the summer at some point on the lake, and to remain there until the last possible moment in the autumn, with the view of drawing the various tribes of Indians to that point, and furnishing them with facilities of trade during the summer and autumn. Such a cantonment kept up for two or three seasons will have a most beneficial effect upon the Indians, as all whites, except authorized traders acting under the supervision of the military authorities, will be prohibited from going into that region. It is proper to remark that extensive strata of excellent coal have been found at Fort Rice, one vein six feet thick. This coal field extends toward the southwest, and it is supposed outcrops on the slopes of the Black Hills. How far north it extends is not yet known. The existence of this great coal field, halfway between the Great Lakes and the Rocky Mountains, is a fact, the value of which cannot well be overestimated. Aside from furnishing fuel for the navigation of the upper Missouri River, it is a controlling element in the location of a railroad across the great plains to the Pacific. Its extent and character will soon be developed by the troops from Fort Rice and other points on the Missouri River.

I may state finally that the Government may safely dismiss all apprehensions of Indian wars in the Northwest. Small Indian raids there doubtless will be, as there always have been, for stealing horses, but no hostilities on any considerable scale are likely again to occur. A small force, such as is designated in this report, will be quite sufficient to protect the frontier and the emigration. I only ask now that the military authorities be left to themselves to deal with these Indians, and to regulate the trading with the Indian tribes without the interposition of Indian agents, and I will cheerfully guarantee peace with the Indian tribes in this department. The department has been administered, so far as its relations with the State and other civil authorities are concerned, in accordance with the views and principles laid down in the accompanying letter from me to Governor Salomon, of Wisconsin. I am gratified to say that there have been entire harmony and success.

The draft and all other laws of the United States have been promptly and fully executed in the department, without difficulty or trouble of any kind whatever.

I desire to bear testimony to the hearty co-operation and zeal of the district commanders in the department in the discharge of the various and perplexing duties which have devolved upon them. General Sully, commanding District of Iowa and the Indian expedition; General Sibley, commanding District of Minnesota, and General T. C. H. Smith, commanding District of Wisconsin, are entitled to my warmest thanks for their valuable services and the cordial good feeling which they have manifested during their entire term of service in this department. To General Sully I particularly desire to invite the favorable consideration of the War Department. His arduous and distinguished services in organizing and conducting the Indian expedition and treating and dispersing the combined tribes of Indians in two considerable battles at such remote points and in so difficult a country, and in thus bringing the Indians to the necessity of asking peace from the Government, entitle him to peculiar consideration, and make it proper for me to renew the application heretofore transmitted for his promotion. He has earned it fairly, and I trust and believe that the Government will not hesitate to confer it upon him.

To the reports of Generals Sully and Sibley, and to those of their subordinate commanders, I refer for details of the various military operations herein sketched, and for a proper representation of the distinguished conduct of the several officers and of the troops under their command. I cheerfully indorse their recommendations in behalf of the officers and soldiers in question.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. POPE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff of the Army, Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE NORTHWEST,
Milwaukee, June 25, 1863.

GOVERNOR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d instant, in relation to the execution of the conscription law in this State, and the question of the use of military force for that purpose. I fully agree with you that military force should not be employed in the loyal States in the execution of this or any other law until all the means for its enforcement usual in times past have been exhausted. Conflicts of authority between the military and civil departments, or between the military forces and the people, are entirely to be deprecated. I am sure you will bear willing testimony to the respect which has been exhibited toward the constituted authorities of this State, and to the care with which, in the discharge of duty in this military department, complications or misunderstandings which might arise from such a cause have been avoided. I have been satisfied from the beginning that in nearly every case the conscription law can be executed by the civil authorities alone, through the people acting under their direction in the legal and usual forms. In the discretion intrusted to me by the Government as to the employment of military force for the execution of this law within this military department, I have steadily declined to permit the use of any of the troops under my command unless I could be convinced that all other legitimate means had

been tried without success. Already, in one or two cases, I have found that applications for military aid had been made without necessity, the enrollment under the law having been completed thoroughly by the willing aid of the civil authorities. The habit of resorting to military force in every trifling case of opposition or resistance to the laws, is becoming so common as to excite in the minds of judicious men very serious alarm. Such a practice entirely supplants the civil authorities, sets aside time-honored means for the enforcement of the laws in this country, destroys in the citizen that feeling of personal interest in their execution through which alone we have maintained popular government, and prepares the public mind for complete abdication of civil rule. It is impossible to believe that citizens of this country, except under the immediate influence of excitement, can be willing to trust the enforcement of civil law to military force, and thus to surrender the very highest privilege and duty of American citizens. Such a course would inevitably lead, if persisted in, to the complete dominion of the military and the final overthrow of free institutions. This practice tends also, naturally, to weaken in the soldier that reverence for the civil law and that respect for the civil authorities with which he entered the military service, which he still earnestly cherishes, and upon which alone we must rely for the quiet disbanding of our great armies and the return of the soldier to his home, an orderly, law-abiding citizen. Every dictate of wisdom and of patriotism should teach us to discourage, both by act and word, anything that might possibly tend to impair in the mind of the soldier his feeling as a citizen.

I therefore confidently hope that all well-disposed citizens of this State will, after short reflection, understand the imperative necessity of exercising their rights through the civil tribunals to enforce every law of the United States, however much they may have been opposed to its enactment.

Whilst, therefore, my duty to the Government requires me to furnish whatever military aid is necessary to enforce the conscription law throughout this department, in strict accordance with its terms, I shall only employ military force for that purpose after every resource of the civil authorities has been used without success.

It is my earnest hope that the people of the several States comprised within this military department have already adopted some such views as are here presented, and will so act upon them as to relieve me from the necessity of using measures in the performance of my duty which are as unpleasant to me as they can possibly be to any loyal citizen.

I am, governor, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. POPE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Hon. E. SALOMON,
Governor of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.

No. 2.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Alfred Sully, U. S. Army, commanding Northwestern Indian Expedition.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Camp on Heart River, Dak. Ter., July 31, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of my operations since July 25:

On the 23d of this month I reached this point, having made rapid marches, considering I had a very large emigrant train under my

charge. I had started in a direction west, but on the road, receiving information that the Indians were on or near the Knife River, I changed my course in a northerly direction. On my arrival at this point I corralled all my wagons and the emigrant train, leaving it under charge of Captain Tripp, Dakota cavalry, with a sufficient force to guard against danger, intending to start with pack-mules, but on opening the boxes I found no saddle-blankets. This I replaced with gunny sacks. I then found the bands that go over the packs and under the belly (called cintuas, I believe) instead of being made of webbing or several thicknesses of duck sewed together, and about six or eight inches wide, were made of hard leather about three inches wide. The torture to the mules, when these pieces of what ought to be called sheet-iron were brought tight into their bellies, was such that they were kicking and jumping in all directions and succeeded in either getting their packs off or breaking the saddle. I therefore had to give up the pack-mule system, for two days' march with such instruments of torture would completely use up all my animals. I then pressed into the service all the light private wagons with me, placing in each four of my best mules and hauling 1,000 pounds each. By throwing away all tents, everything but provisions and ammunition, I could move rapidly with a very few wagons. About 3 p. m. of the 26th I succeeded in getting off, and about 10 a. m. of the 28th succeeded in reaching the enemy's camp, about eighty miles' march. All their camp was standing when I reached there, and they prepared for a fight, no doubt with full confidence of whipping me, for they had twenty-four hours' notice of my advance, by a party of my scouts falling in with a war party of theirs not sixteen miles from here. We followed their trail, which led me to the camp. I found the Indians strongly posted on the side of a mountain called Tahkahokuty Mountain, which is a small chain of very high hills, filled with ravines, thickly timbered and well watered, situated on a branch of the Little Missouri, Gros Ventres, latitude 47° 15′, as laid down on the Government map. The prairie in front of the camp is very rolling, and on the left as we approached high hills. On the top and sides of these hills and on my right, at the base of the mountains, also on the hillocks in front on the prairie, the Indians were posted; there were over 1,600 lodges, at least 5,000 or 6,000 warriors, composed of the Unkpapas, Sans Arcs, Blackfeet, Minneconjous, Yanktonais, and Santee Sioux. My force consisted as follows: Eleven companies of the Sixth Iowa Cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Pollock commanding; three companies of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Pattee commanding; two companies of Dakota cavalry, Captain Miner commanding; four companies of Brackett's Minnesota Battalion, Major Brackett commanding; about seventy scouts, and a prairie battery of two sections, commanded by Capt. N. Pope. This formed the First Brigade. Ten companies of the Eighth Minnesota Infantry, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Rogers; six companies of the Second Minnesota Cavalry, under Colonel McLaren, and two sections of the Third Minnesota Battery, under Captain Jones, formed the Second Brigade, under command of Colonel Thomas. The whole of my force numbering on the field about 2,200 men.

Finding it was impossible to charge, owing to the country being intersected by deep ravines filled with timber, I dismounted and deployed six companies of the Sixth Iowa on the right and three companies of the Seventh Iowa, and on the left six companies of the Eighth Minnesota Infantry; placed Pope's battery in the center, supported by two

companies of cavalry; the Second Cavalry, on the left, drawn up by squadrons, Brackett's Minnesota Battalion on the right in the same order, Jones' battery and four companies of cavalry as a reserve. The few wagons I had closed up, and the rear guard, composed of three companies, followed. In this order we advanced, driving in the Indians till we reached the plain between the hills and mountains. Here large bodies of Indians flanked me. The Second Cavalry drove them from the left. A very large body of Indians collected on my right for a charge. I directed Brackett to charge them. This he did gallantly, driving them in a circle of about three miles to the base of the mountains and beyond my line of skirmishers, killing many of them. The Indians, seeing his position, collected in large numbers on him, but he repelled them, assisted by some well-directed shots from Jones' battery. About this time a large body of Indians, who we ascertained afterward had been out hunting for me, came up on my rear. I brought a piece of Jones' battery to the rear, and with the rear guard dispersed them. The Indians, seeing that the day would not be favorable for them, had commenced taking down their lodges and sending back their families. I swung the left of my line round to the right and closed on them, sending Pope with his guns and the Dakota cavalry (two companies) forward. The artillery fire soon drove them out of their strong positions in the ravines, and Jones' battery, with Brackett's battalion, moving up on the right, soon put them to flight, the whole of my line advancing at the same time. By sunset no Indians were on the ground. A body, however, appeared on top of the mountain over which they had retreated. I sent Major Camp, Eighth Minnesota, with four companies of the Eighth Minnesota, forward. They ascended to the top of the hill, putting the Indians to flight and killing several. The total number of killed, judging from what we saw, was from 100 to 150. I saw them during the fight carry off a great many dead or wounded. The very strong position they held and the advantages they had to retreat over a broken country prevented me from killing more. We slept on the battle-ground that night.

The next morning before daylight we started to go round the mountain, as I could not get up it with wagons and artillery in front. After six miles march, I came in sight of the trail on the other side the mountain, but could not get to it. One sight of the country convinced me there was no use trying to follow up the Indians through such a country and find them. I went on top the hill, and as far as I could see with my glass (some thirty miles) the country was cut up in all directions by deep ravines, sometimes near 100 feet deep, filled with timber, the banks almost perpendicular. I therefore thought the next best thing to do was to destroy their camp. This I did, ordering Colonel McLaren, Second Cavalry, on that duty. I inclose you a report* of property destroyed by him. That afternoon I marched six miles from the battle-ground and camped. About dark a large body of Indians came on to my pickets and killed two. A command was immediately sent after them, but they fled in all directions. They made no further demonstrations on my march to this point, which I reached yesterday, my animals well tired out, having made a march of over 165 miles in six days, one day being occupied in the fight.

The officers and men of my command behaved well, and all appeared desirous to carry out my instructions as well as they could.

My thanks are due to the officers of my staff for communicating my orders promptly, sometimes being obliged to expose themselves very

* See p. 172.

much in so doing—Captain Pell, assistant adjutant-general; Major Wood, Fifteenth New York Cavalry, chief of cavalry; Captain Marsh, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, acting assistant inspector-general; Captain Von Minden, Brackett's battalion, acting topographical engineer; Lieutenant Ellison, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, acting ordnance officer; Lieutenant Bacon, Dakota cavalry, acting assistant quartermaster; and I was also obliged to accept the services of Surgeon Freeman, medical director, to carry orders. I shall march toward the Yellowstone in two days, bearing a little south, and I expect to overtake the enemy again on my way. I would beg leave also to add that the day after the fight, when I returned to the enemy's camp, some Indians came forward and planted a white flag on the hill-side; some men, however fired on them and they retreated. I saw the flag too late.

I inclose you the list* of killed and wounded, and reports of different commanders.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

ALF. SULLY,
Brigadier-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPT. OF THE NORTHWEST.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION.
Camp on the Yellowstone River, Dak. Ter., August 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of my operations since I made my last report, on the 31st of July, on my return to Heart River, after my fight:

I assembled together all the Indians and half-breed guides I had to consult about my course. I had not quite six days' full rations on hand, and I must strike the Yellowstone by the most direct route at the Braseau house, where I had ordered two small steamers to meet me the first part of August. They all told me it was impossible for wagons to get through the country near the Little Missouri, without they went south, the route I started on before I was turned to the north by the report that the Indians were on Knife River. I would thus strike the Yellowstone, near the Powder River, and it would take me two or three weeks, and then, besides, I could not meet my boats there. One Indian, however, a Yanktonian, told me he had frequently been across that country on war parties, and he thought he could take the wagons through by digging some through the hills. I placed myself under his guidance, and he took me in a west direction for three days along the Heart River; plenty of good grass and water, but timber scarce; the country filled with extensive beds of coal, in some places veins ten feet thick. From what I have seen, coal, I feel sure, can be found in all this country, from the Missouri west to the Yellowstone. On the 5th day of August we came in sight of the Bad Lands, which extend along the Little Missouri, the valley being about twenty miles across; through the middle of this valley runs the river. When I came in sight of this country from the top of the table-land we were marching on, I became alarmed, and almost despaired of ever being able to cross it, and should have been very much tempted, had I rations enough, to turn back, but, on a close examination of my rations, I found I only had rations for six

* Nominal list (here omitted) shows 2 killed and 8 wounded in Brackett's Minnesota Battalion; 1 killed and 1 wounded in Sixth Iowa Cavalry; 2 killed in Second Minnesota Cavalry; and 1 wounded in the First Battalion Dakota Cavalry.

days longer, by some mistake of my commissary, I suppose, for he is not with me to explain, as I left him back at Fort Rice. I therefore had to reduce the bread ration one-third, all other stores, except meat, one-half, so as to make it last me to the river. We camped that night with little or no grass, and but a few holes of muddy rain water. I have not sufficient power of language to describe the country in front of us. It was grand, dismal, and majestic. You can imagine a deep basin, 600 feet deep and twenty-five miles in diameter, filled with a number of cones and oven-shaped knolls of all sizes, from twenty feet to several hundred feet high, sometimes by themselves, sometimes piled up into large heaps on top of one another, in all conceivable shapes and confusion. Most of these hills were of a gray clay, but many of a light brick color, of burnt clay; little or no vegetation. Some of the sides of the hills, however, were covered with a few scrub cedars. Viewed in the distance at sunset it looked exactly like the ruins of an ancient city. My Indian guide appeared to be confident of success, and trusting to him, I started next morning, and by dint of hard digging, succeeded by night in reaching the banks of the Little Missouri, about twelve miles. I regret very much some gentleman well acquainted with geology and mineralogy did not accompany the expedition, for we marched through a most wonderful and interesting country. It was covered with pieces of petrified wood, and on the tops of some of the hills we found petrified stumps of trees, the remains of a great forest. In some cases these trees were sixteen to eighteen feet in diameter. Large quantities of iron ore, lava, and impressions in the rocks of leaves of a size and shape not known to any of us. The banks of the Little Missouri are thickly timbered with cottonwood, and the river resembles very much the Missouri, on a small scale. We had now reached the river and the middle of the Bad Lands. Having dug our way down to this point it was now necessary to dig our way out. I therefore ordered out a strong working party, with four companies of cavalry, under charge of Lieutenant-Colonel Pattee, Seventh Iowa Cavalry. I remained in camp to allow the animals to rest and pick up what grass could be found around, there being very little to be found. Some few of the men, however, without orders, took their horses into the timber beyond the pickets, leaving their saddles and arms in camp. A small party of Indians crawled up to them, fired on them, creating a stampede. Most of the men ran away, leaving their horses, and the Indians succeeded in getting a few away, but three or four men having some courage mounted their horses bareback and gave chase, causing the Indians to drop all the horses, which were retaken, save one or two. A company was soon in pursuit, but the Indians escaped through some of the numerous ravines and forests. As we had saddled and hitched up everything at the first alarm, I broke camp and moved up the river three miles in the direction of our route, where the grass was said to be better. By evening the working party under Colonel Pattee returned, having cut three miles of the road. A part of a company, however, by accident had been left behind. They were surrounded by Indians and were near being cut off, but by a hasty retreat they succeeded in getting through the deep gorge, where the road was cut, the Indians firing at them from the tops of the hills. They pursued them to the river and showed themselves on the top of the high bluffs opposite my camp, firing into my camp, but a few shells from Jones' battery soon scattered them, and with the exception of a little picket-firing there was no more trouble that night. I now knew I had come

upon the Indians I fought about a week ago, and in the worst possible section of country I could possibly wish to encounter an enemy.

My road lay through a succession of mountain gorges, down deep ravines, with perpendicular bluffs, so narrow only one wagon could pass at a time, intersected with valleys, down which the Indians could dash onto any point of my train. Stretched out in a single line we would extend from three to four miles. The large emigrant train I had were ox-teams heavily loaded, and it was impossible to move them except at a snail's pace; I felt more apprehension for their safety than for that of my command, for they had with them a large number of women and children. Therefore I took every precaution for protection as well as for attacking. I distributed my command along the flanks of the train and a strong guard in rear, with Captain Pope's four howitzers, with orders for companies to dismount and take the heights at dangerous points, remaining there till the next company in their rear relieved them. I sent three companies of the Second Brigade, who had the advance, ahead with a pioneer party, followed by Jones' battery. Colonel Thomas, with the rest of the Second Brigade, followed on the flanks of the wagons, while the First Brigade followed guarding the rest of the trains. I accompanied the advance brigade. I had given orders that at every point, when the nature of the ground would allow it, for the teams to double up and park as close as they could, so as to close up the rear. After marching about three miles we came onto the Indians strongly posted in front and on the flanks of a deep mountain pass. They were dislodged after some little trouble, the shells from Jones' battery doing good execution, and the advance with other troops pushed on, while the pioneer party made the road. The Indians attacked me on the flanks and rear at the same time, but on all occasions they were repulsed with heavy loss by troops near by, and thus we advanced fighting, hunting a road and digging it out, till we reached a small lake and spring about ten miles from our starting-point, repulsing the Indians at every point with great slaughter. I speak partly from what I saw, for in their hasty retreat they had to leave in many instances their dead on the ground; they carried them off whenever they could. At the spring there was for a short time quite a brisk little skirmish, the Indians trying to keep us from the only water we had that day, and the day was so hot that the animals were suffering very much, having had not much to eat for two days. Part of Colonel McLaren's Second Minnesota had most of the work here. One of his companies in advance got separated from the rest and surrounded; they however got into a hollow and defended themselves until relieved by other companies sent out from Colonel Thomas' command. Their loss, however, was slight in comparison to their danger. Unfortunately this day I lost the services of my guide; he was shot, having ventured too far in the advance. He was the only one who knew the country over which we were marching.

The next morning we moved forward. The Indians were in front of us appearing as if they intended to give us battle. Probably about 1,000 showed themselves. I pushed forward Major House, Sixth Iowa, with two companies of the Sixth Iowa, and Captain Tripp's Dakota cavalry, and sent forward Major Brackett with one company of his battalion, and Pope's four howitzers, dismounting the rest of the Sixth Iowa, under Lieutenant-Colonel Pollock, on the right, and three companies of the Seventh Iowa, under Lieutenant-Colonel Pattee, on the left, to push out and clear our flanks, and moved forward with Jones' battery and the train, Colonel Thomas, with his Minnesota bri-

gade, taking care of the rear. We advanced without much trouble, with a little skirmishing in front, and also an attack in rear. The enemy were repulsed on all sides. It was evident in spite of all their boasting all fighting was out of them. A few miles brought us to an open country, and the last we saw of the Indians was a cloud of dust some six or eight miles off, running as fast as they could. They were better mounted than we were. The men behaved well. There were many acts of individual bravery displayed. A great deal of ingenuity in many instances was shown by the men in trapping the Indians who, afraid of our long-ranged rifles and artillery, kept themselves at a respectful distance. Parties would crawl out behind hills while a small party mounted would dash onto the Indians, fire and retreat, drawing the Indians into the ambuscade, when they would succeed in emptying a few saddles and capturing a few ponies. It is impossible for me to give anything like a report of the number of Indians killed, the fighting extended over so great a distance, and was a succession of skirmishes; there was certainly over 100 killed. Other officers feel sure that there were double or even treble that number. It is certain, however, their loss was very heavy. The same Indians I fought before were engaged, besides Cheyennes, Brulés, Minneconjous, and others from the south. This I got from my own Indians, who, during the fight, conversed with them from behind the hills. They met me under every disadvantage on the strongest of positions and were entirely crushed and routed. If I had had anything to eat and was not encumbered with an emigrant train, and if my animals had not been without food so many days, I might have overtaken some of them, for they fled in all directions.

I would here state that on crossing the Little Missouri I found the country covered with myriads of grasshoppers, who had eaten everything. My animals were almost starved. I found this state of things all the way to the Yellowstone, and I was obliged to abandon and shoot a number of animals on the road. After marching six miles this day, we came to the place where the Indians left about thirty hours before my arrival. From the size of their camp, or rather bivouac, for they had pitched no lodges, I should judge all the Indians in the country had assembled there. The space they occupied was over one mile long and half a mile wide, besides which we discovered camps all over the country, close by this spot. I found the lodge trails turned to the left in a southwest direction. We still continued our course west by north, and next day crossed a heavy trail going northeast toward the same point where I first fought them. It was evidently not all the lodges that went that way. We continued our way across the country to the Yellowstone, which we reached on the 12th of August, over a section of country I never wish to travel again; our animals half dead with hunger; the grass entirely eaten off. I should judge it was never very good grass in the best of seasons. The water we had to drink the worst sort of alkali water; this told on the animals. Fortunately, we here met the two boats I ordered to get up the Yellowstone if possible, and the first steamer that ever attempted to ascend this river. These boats were the Chippewa Falls and Alone, small stern-wheel steamers, the former drawing only twelve inches light; they each had about fifty tons of freight; very little of it corn. The steamer Island City, having aboard nearly all my corn, struck a snag near Fort Union and sunk. The steamers attempted to go above this point, but a rapid shoal rendered it impossible. It was also fortunate for the boats that we arrived when we did, for the water is falling fast, and it will be

impossible for them to go down the stream over rapids below without the help of our wagons. Having no grain to recuperate my animals I had to again change my plans.

I intended to again strike across the country northeast, in hopes of reaching the Indians again, but without any grass for several days this could not be done. I therefore crossed the command over the river, fording it with my wagons without much difficulty. The building of the post on the Yellowstone this year I consider not practicable. The loss of one of my boats, the impossibility of getting boats this late up the river, and the want of grass preventing me from hauling stores several hundred miles up the river will show you the reasons. I shall follow down the Yellowstone to its mouth, cross the Missouri and down it to Berthold. I will by this means have grass and a good road, though I increase my distance over 100 miles. I have the honor to inclose you the reports of commanders in regard to the part they took in the different skirmishes.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

ALF. SULLY,
Brigadier-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPT. OF THE NORTHWEST.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION.
Fort Union, Dak. Ter., August 18 [?], 1864.

SIR: My last report, dated August 13, was written after we had crossed the Yellowstone. I started on the 14th of August down the river. Grass was quite scarce and very much scattered. In consequence I had to scatter my command. This, I am informed by those who ought to know, is not the case generally, but that this season there were no snows and rain fell too late to be of much service. The country appeared to be completely burned over by the sun, as if there had been a fire over the prairie. It was reported to me the boats could not get down the river over the different rapids. Therefore I had to unload the wagons and send them to unload the boats, and with the assistance of the men I placed aboard the boats I succeeded in getting them to this point on the 17th instant. I had some difficulty in getting across the Missouri, owing to the quicksands. I could not ford it with wagons. They were all unloaded, taken to pieces, and placed on the boats, and the animals swam across. On the 20th of August I succeeded in getting everything across, with the loss of 1 man and 3 animals drowned and 2 wagons broken. It is now a month since we started from Fort Rice, and during that time we have marched about 460 miles over a most difficult country. The first night after I got across a party of Crows came in, reporting they had been chased by a very large party of Sioux. I sent out Major Brackett and his battalion, and two pieces under Captain Pope, with these Indians after the Sioux, but after hunting all over the country they returned, reporting no signs of Indians, but a fresh track of a large body of buffalo. The chief of the Crows expressed the most friendly feeling toward the whites, and wished me to remain here till he could bring the nation in to see me. This I could not promise. The traders here report that they expressed quite a different feeling toward the whites before they heard I was in the country. The Assiniboines were here a few days before I arrived to receive their goods. They got part of them, issued by the command-

ing officer, for the agent of all these upper bands left some weeks ago. This system of issuing annuity goods is one grand humbug. The annuities sent are so very small that it is impossible for every one of the nation to get a share, without they are issued at the rate of spoonsfull of sugar, and strips of cloth one inch wide per man. The strongest and boldest of the bands, and often the worst Indians, get the largest share. This breeds dissatisfaction. The agent comes up the river with the goods on some boat, and if he don't find the Indians present to receive their annuities he returns in the boat, leaving the stores in charge of the fort, to be issued or not, as may seem best, and liable to be stolen. It cannot be expected of the Indians that they will leave their hunting grounds and bring their families to some fort, where there is no game, to starve while waiting to receive a spoonful of sugar, or a few beads, and part of a blanket per head, and maybe have to wait for weeks and weeks at one of the forts the arrival of their agent with the goods, who must return in the boat that brought him up, or be obliged to remain up in the country until next year. It would be better to do away with this annuity business altogether, as the Indians call it paying them to be good, or if it is considered necessary to make a tribe a present let it be on their good conduct, and when ordered by the President, or let the goods remain for several years to accumulate to a respectable amount, and send them under charge of some honest man, who would remain and see that the Indians got them. I here parted with my emigrant train, but not until they had succeeded in giving me further cause not to forget them. Quite a number of horses, mules, and oxen turned up missing. At first it was supposed they had strayed away in the thick timber; a large number of pistols and other arms and property were also reported to me missing, and several deserters. I therefore sent a force after the Idaho gentlemen; they overtook part of it, for it was scattered all over the country. Twenty Indians could have captured them in detail. The part of the train my troops overtook was composed of the better class of citizens; they only had nine oxen, six horses, and a few rifles. They acknowledged that a party ahead had a very large amount of arms that they had purchased from soldiers for whiskey, but as they had good animals, stolen ours, they were some twenty miles ahead; with them were the deserters. These gentlemen expressed great regret that they should be associated with such scoundrels, yet they did not give me information by which I might have caught these men. I suppose they did not think it of importance. The fort is an old, dilapidated affair, almost falling to pieces. I have here deposited the stores I intended for the post up the Yellowstone, under charge of Company I, Thirtieth Wisconsin. This command will remain here this winter to guard the stores. I look upon the position at the mouth of the Yellowstone as a very important one as a depot of supplies.

Fort Union is too far above the mouth of the Yellowstone, and frequently inaccessible. I therefore made a military reservation about four miles square at and below the mouth of the Yellowstone River, taking in all the heaviest bodies of timber.

The two boats start below in a day or so with the sick and wounded. As soon as I load up my train I will start for Fort Berthold.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

ALF. SULLY,
Brigadier-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPT. OF THE NORTHWEST.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Fort Berthold, August 29, 1864.

SIR: I started from Fort Union on the 21st and reached this point yesterday. Our march at first had to be slow on account of our animals, but after marching about seventy miles the grass improved greatly, and in consequence our animals. It was my intention to come to this point, as I would here, no doubt, be able to learn something about the Sioux from the Ree Indians. After marching down the river six days, about eighty miles by land below Union, we came to a place near the head of the Big Bend, where a very large body of Indians had crossed the Missouri, about ten days before, and camped there one night. There were very few trails of lodges, but a very large number of pony tracks, some thousand at least. Their track, after going north, appeared to turn to the east and cross the Little Knife River, in the direction of Devil's Lake. These were undoubtedly the same Indians whose trail I mentioned we crossed after our fighting in the hills east of the Yellowstone, and I had no doubt they were the Yanktonais; this I afterward found out was the case. They may have gone into the British possessions, for all the Indians well know we are not authorized to cross the line. The half breeds of the North keep them well posted in these matters; it is to their interest to draw all the trade to their country. On my arrival at Berthold I met all the Indians of the Ree, Gros Ventres, and Mandan Nations. They were busy collecting their corn, of which they have a very large amount. They were all glad to see me, as they expressed themselves. They now felt as if they were relieved from slavery. They offered their services to go out with me. A large party of them had started in July to meet me, but found by my trail I had passed so long ago they went to Fort Rice. These Indians have for years been friends to the whites; they are industrious and look well off. The Sioux tried hard to get them to join them. This they would not do, but had to make peace with them, as they are too weak to contend against this powerful tribe. They ought to be protected, as they afford, in a measure, a barrier against the Sioux holding all the country near the river. On this account, and as I deemed it necessary to keep up the communication up the river, I ordered Captain Moreland, with his company (G, Sixth Iowa Cavalry), to garrison the fort. This post is the best point from which to supply a post at Devil's Lake.

In conversing with the Rees in regard to the trail I crossed, they all agreed that undoubtedly the Sioux had gone to the Maison du Chien Butte, and not to the line. The day after I arrived a Yanktonais Indian arrived, who had married a Ree squaw; he came to see me; I knew him as the brother of Big Head. He reported that he had just come from the camp of the Yanktonais, at a lake, the head of the Little Knife River; that there they had met a party of half-breeds of the North, who had furnished them seven kegs of powder and balls, and that by their invitation they were then on their way to the British line. He also stated that the Chiefs Black Catfish and Medicine Bull and some of the head men had told him that they wished to make peace, and wanted to come in, but were afraid; that they would not have got into this scrape had it not been for the Unkpapas, and other tribes south; that at the first battle I had they were satisfied the Unkpapas were better at talking than fighting; that at the next fight they moved out of the way and then left the rest, going north, while the rest had gone into the Black Hills; also that Two Bears left to go to Fort Rice. The Indians had lost most of their lodges and baggage, and were in a very

distressed condition. I give you his story for what it is worth; it may be true, but is just as likely false. However, I gave this Yanktonais a paper, and sent him back to bring in the Yanktonais to Fort Rice and I would talk with them. I told him I intended to go north after these Indians, but that I would not go there now after what he said; in fact, it was not in my power to go as I had not rations enough.

On the 30th I start down the river. I shall march down some distance, and then turn off toward Devil's Lake, when I shall know if this Indian has told me the truth.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

ALF. SULLY,
Brigadier-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPT. OF THE NORTHWEST.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Camp Fort Rice, September 9, 1864.

GENERAL: On my arrival here I received the first communication I have received for two months. I reached here with my staff yesterday, the command to-day. I have not time to address you officially and therefore write in private a short note what I shall say in the proper mode. Captain Fisk, I very much fear, has destroyed all the plans I had made to make a peace with these Indians, and so close this troublesome and expensive business, for if it is continued it can be made a second Florida war. Why will our Government continue to act so foolishly, sending out emigrant trains at a great expense? Do they know that most of the men that go are persons running away from the draft? They curse and ridicule the expedition and officers in command. Fisk, as I am reliably informed, was the loudest talker in this respect; he ridiculed the expedition and particularly me in the loudest terms, and now he sends back word he is corralled about 200 miles west and wants help, as he says, to go forward, for it would be ruinous to him to turn back. But he wishes troops now (he boasted he could go anywhere through the country with fifty men to help him) no matter if it costs the Government any amount and exposed the lives of the men and animals of my command. The Government would have saved money had they bought out the emigrant train I took, and Fisk's, paying them three times the value. They can't go forward on their trail; there is no grass and very little water. Fisk was told of this before he started from here, but he, though he had never been over the country, knew better. "It was a damned trick of the traders; they wanted him to go ninety miles out of his way, by Berthold, to get money out of his men." I have given orders to the commander of the troops I send to his relief, mostly infantry (for most of the horses are too weak to travel), to bring back the troops and advise the emigrants to turn back, for in less than a month we must expect winter here, then if Fisk and his emigrants choose to go ahead let them go.

Lieutenant Smith, Dakota cavalry, commanded the escort which Colonel Dill, contrary to my orders, furnished. This is the same lieutenant that the President dismissed for low, outrageous conduct. Captain Fisk reports him as the bravest of men. He may be. This lieutenant was sent with a few soldiers back to Fort Rice with the application for relief. This lieutenant reports that there are over 1,000

Indians; that Fisk is fortified and is digging for water. The soldiers report differently, as they say the first attack was made on two wagons far in the rear, with ammunition and some arms and seven men, by about sixty Indians. These wagons were captured and six of the men killed, and at no time over 300 Indians were there. This I believe to be the true story, but if they remain there, before long they will have force of Indians enough to clean them out. Should this take place it will put a stop to all hopes of my coming to any settlement this year with the Indians.

About 300 or 400 lodges of Indians of all bands, those who gave themselves up this year and I allowed to go and hunt, are here. Seven of the Yanktonais are with them who report that all the Yanktonais and some Sautees are on their way here to see me and make peace. If the Fisk raid don't put a stop to this it will be a great matter. I hope it is true, but have my doubts. You state that the six companies of the First U. S. Volunteers are on their way by steamer. No boat can get up here now. Shall I relieve the Wisconsin troops if they don't come? I can do so. In case these troops do come I will have Brackett's battalion and four small companies of the Seventh Iowa of no use to me this winter. Will you please send orders to me by telegraph.

Yours, with respect,

ALF. SULLY,
Brigadier-General.

Major-General POPE,
Milwaukee.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Fort Rice, Dak. Ter., September 11, 1864.

SIR: I left Fort Berthold the 1st of September, marched down the Missouri to mouth of Snake Creek. Was glad to get my command away, for I found that whisky there was in abundance. I am told by reliable persons that the Indians had it in their tents for sale. It is said they get it from the English half-breeds, who appear to have control of this country. From the mouth of Snake Creek I struck north toward the Mouse River, and after going in sight of it turned to the southeast to the Maison du Chien Butte, and there encamped. I sent out parties to examine the country, but no recent signs of Indians could be discovered. We found thousands of buffalo, good grass, plenty of water, and some timber—the very country I would go into to hunt for Indians. On top of the butte you have a fine view of the country for over forty miles. I am now satisfied of the truth of so much of the Yanktonais' story that I mentioned in my last letter, as to these Indians seeking safety with their friends in the British possessions. Although I found no recent signs of Indians, I found the country all around cut up by heavy trains of Pembina carts, about a month old, in all directions. One trail looked quite recent, and I was in hopes of capturing some of these scoundrels, but did not succeed. We can never expect to have quiet on this frontier till this unlawful traffic on the part of people from the English possessions is put down. An expedition into their country would have a very beneficial effect. It would show the Indians that they had not a safe refuge, and could no longer be supplied with ammunition by people living under the English flag. They come into our country constantly in parties several hundred strong, well armed and ready to attack or defend themselves, invite

our Indians to resist the Government, furnish them with arms and ammunition, and when they are pushed by the troops take care of them over the British line till the troops get out of the way. If we had the troops to remain in this country this could be, in a great measure, stopped in a short time. Not being permitted to follow the Indians north of the line, and having nothing to fight in my own country, I took up my line of march south toward Fort Rice. We found the buffalo so thick at some of our camps I had to send out men dismounted as skirmishers to drive them off. A great many were killed in this way, which was lucky, for our fresh meat was about out.

I reached Fort Rice on the evening of the 8th instant; the command arrived next day. I found the post in a fine state of progress. The four companies of Colonel Dill's command have done an immense amount of labor in the last two months and have done it well. The post when finished will be one of the best posts in the West. The men complain greatly that working as they do they wear out more clothing than their pay amounts to. If I had it in my own power, I would issue them extra clothing; they deserve it. I here met the lodges of Indians of different bands who took no part in the war, and by my permission went on a hunt, under charge of fifty of their soldiers that I appoint from the different tribes of Indians to keep order in their camp. Giving them a uniform, they appeared to be proud of their position. They also tell me they think all the Yanktonais will come in before long and make peace; I hope it may be true. I here learned that Captain Fisk and his emigrant train of 80 or 100 wagons left here about two weeks ago on my trail to go to the Yellowstone; that he reached here under an escort of a company of cavalry. He required an escort from the commanding officer here—Colonel Dill, Thirtieth Wisconsin. The colonel furnished him with an escort of a lieutenant and fifty men, composed of cavalrymen that I had left here, not in good health and poorly mounted. The lieutenant with fourteen men returned the day before I arrived with a letter from Captain Fisk, stating that he was about 200 miles west of here (he had left my trail); he was corralled and fortified, and was surrounded by Indians, and that he must be re-enforced to enable him to go forward, "for to turn back would be ruinous to him." While here he was cautioned against going west on my trail, both on account of the danger to so small a force, and of the very great difficulties of their getting through on account of the country. He laughed and replied that with fifty men he could go anywhere; all he wanted with fifty men, soldiers, was to quiet the fears of the women and children he had with him.

In questioning separately the soldiers who returned I found that not over 300 Indians were there; that they were attacked three days before they made their corral by about sixty Indians, while the train was stretched out on the road, and two wagons, one of which had upset, were about two miles in the rear, with a guard of six soldiers. One of these wagons unfortunately contained arms and ammunition. Six soldiers and two citizens were killed and wagons captured, and one citizen escaped. They had skirmishes after that, and then they corralled. They were burning parts of their wagons and feeding the cattle on bread and flour when the party left; they left in the middle of a stormy night. Fearing, if this emigrant party remained where they were long, the Indians would send out runners and collect a party that would clean them out, and learning that all the party except the captain were anxious to turn back, I thought it my duty to do all in my

power to save them, in spite of the orders I had received about the movement of troops, on account of the women and children and my soldiers, if no one else, who were innocent of the folly of so small a party going into an enemy's country, who had lately been badly whipped, and would do all they could to take revenge if possible. When my troops arrived next day I issued an order directing Colonel Dill, with 300 of the Thirtieth Wisconsin, 200 Eighth Minnesota, 100 Seventh Iowa Cavalry, all dismounted, and from the Second Minnesota Cavalry, Brackett's battalion, and Sixth Iowa Cavalry 100 men each, mounted on the best of the horses, with two howitzers, to go after Captain Fisk and bring back his party. I would have sent only a cavalry force, but this I could not; my animals were too weak to stand a rapid march, having marched 1,500 miles in the last three months, sometimes with little or no grass, and the worst of alkali water. All day yesterday was consumed in crossing the troops and wagons, drawing rations, &c.; this morning early they started. I hope they will be in time to relieve Captain Fisk, if he is in trouble, for a disaster to him and his party at this present moment would greatly retard my prospects of making peace with the Indians. They would, of course, take this emigrant train for part of my command, and if they capture it the evil disposed in the nation would boast of it and urge the rest to continue the war. I shall send off from here all the troops except a sufficient number to protect the place, and will remain here some days. I would like to keep the command up here a few weeks longer, but this is impossible. I have not rations enough; a very large quantity of what I have is not fit for use. The sinking of two boats and the breaking down of another, together with the low stage of water, prevented all my supplies reaching here. The campaign for this summer must therefore close. Winter will very soon set in and with it death to all my stock, reduced and weak as it is; two or three cold freezing rains or snows on the prairie would kill them off.

In conclusion I would beg leave to make the following remarks in regard to Indian affairs in this section of country: The Indian expedition which the general commanding the department ordered has been a success in every respect as far as it was in the power of any one or any body of troops to make it so. Circumstances over which no human being had any control prevented it from being a perfect success in every respect. Had the Missouri River commenced to rise in April, as it generally does, instead of June, the boats from Saint Louis would have got up to Sioux City and other points of starting sooner; the command would have been in the field sooner, boats would not have stuck on sand-bars, freight would not have been unloaded and loaded, whereby much of the stores was damaged badly. Had not two of the boats sunk and one become disabled, more supplies would be on hand, and if the usual amount of snow had fallen last winter the river would have been higher, the Yellowstone would have been navigable, there would have been grass and water, not alkali, which has helped to kill off many of my animals, the post on the Yellowstone could have been established. But in spite of all this, the expedition has met the combined forces of the Sioux Nation at points they chose to give us battle, and in these engagements completely routed them, destroyed a large portion of their camps and baggage, and scattered them in all directions, completely breaking up their combination, and proved to them that in spite of their boasts and threats they were no match for the whites. I think they never will again organize for resistance against

a large body of troops, and I do not therefore think it will be necessary to have another expedition. Yet, owing to the vast extent of country over which these Sioux can rove, the peculiar nature of a large portion of the country, such as the Black Hills, the mountains near the Big Horn, the Bad Lands, extending ten miles and over, on both sides of the Little Missouri, Gros Ventres, so broken up in places with narrow ravines, hundreds of feet deep, the sides of which are perfectly perpendicular, it is not only easy then to lose Indians you may be in pursuit of, but even lose yourself; and then, again, the safe refuge the Indians have in the British possessions under the protection of the half-breeds of the North, who urge the Indians to keep up the war, so that they may be benefited by their trade, it will be exceedingly difficult to bring all the bands of the Sioux to a complete subjection. A peace could no doubt be made with these Indians, as was made in 1857, by Congress making a heavy appropriation, promising to feed and clothe these Indians and begging them not to be bad any more, and there is no doubt such a peace would be just as well kept as the peace already made—that is, every white man who entered their country would be robbed or killed, without they went in sufficient numbers to protect themselves. The Indians regard the annuities given by the Government because they fear them. It will be necessary, however, to garrison posts in the country, keeping up a sufficient force for a few years not only to guard the posts but to send out parties to hunt up the Indians.

The matter of the greatest consequence in regard to these posts is the selection of a proper commander, so few officers in the army, at least in the volunteer service, that have had the opportunity to become well acquainted with the Indian character. It would be better to have no garrison at all than to have it commanded by an incompetent officer. The post on the Yellowstone should be built, but the question is where to place it. In a military point of view, near the mouth of the Powder River would be a good point, but from what I saw on the Yellowstone Valley, and from what I am told by those who ought to know, there will be great difficulty in procuring hay.

All the Indians north of the Missouri, above the Big Bend, could easily be banded together to assist a body of troops to war against the Sioux. In my opinion it would be policy and economy for the Government to expend a few thousand dollars and get these Indians into a war with the hostile portion of the Sioux, and to assist them also with troops, till all the posts are permanently established.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

ALF. SULLY,
Brigadier-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPT. OF THE NORTHWEST.

HEADQUARTERS NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Crow Creek Agency, Dak. Ter., October 10, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report I arrived here to-day; left the camp near Farm Island the 8th. The same day the First U. S. Volunteers reached there marching. They had to leave their boat some thirty miles below here, owing to the unusual low stage of water. The battalion was in a poor condition to march in this season of the year, with-

out tents, and little or no transportation. I, however, had on hand shelter-tents, that were for my use, but did not reach me in time, and I hired a few wagons. They will reach Rice about the 17th. I was much pleased with the appearance of the officers and men. I found that the three head chiefs of the hostile bands, who had been in both the battles this year, had been in at the fort. They acknowledged they had been badly beaten, and felt they were no match for the whites, and wished to know on what terms they could have peace. The commanding officer told them on condition they behaved themselves, and would no longer molest the whites. They went off saying they would go to bring in their principal people. I have forgotten the names of two of these chiefs, but Bear Ribs, an Unkpapa, is one. As I had to go below I left my adjutant-general, Captain Pell, at Fort Sully, to meet them, and to send me word if I was wanted. I shall go to Sioux City, and I think it would be well for me to remain there a few weeks till I can hear from them. My friendly Indians also met me there with the same news "that they had no doubt these Indians would all come in for peace." I think the prospect looks bright for finishing all troubles west of the river, but on this side of the river, the British possessions affording a safe refuge for all evil disposed, may delay matters for a time. If these Indians don't come in before winter sets in, it is not likely they will before early spring, as they will probably make their winter camp far from the troops. I would be glad to hear if the general commanding thinks it best for me to remain at Sioux City until I hear definitely in regard to this matter.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

ALF. SULLY,
Brigadier-General.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPT. OF THE NORTHWEST.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE NORTHWEST,
Milwaukee, October 22, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Halleck.

This report of General Sully is valuable and interesting as showing the immediate prospect of settling all Indian difficulties in this department.

JNO. POPE,
Major-General, Commanding.

No. 3.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Samuel M. Pollock, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH IOWA VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
Camp No. 34, July 29, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the operations of eleven companies of the Sixth Iowa Volunteer Cavalry on the 28th and 29th of July, 1864 (Company K having been left in garrison at Fort Randall, Dak. Ter.), in connection with the battle with the Indians at Tahkahokuty. On the morning of the 28th instant the two brigades took up the line of march

from their camp (No. 32) and Big Knife River, in a direction west of north. The First Brigade, consisting of the Sixth Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, three companies of the Seventh Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, Brackett's Battalion of Minnesota Cavalry, two companies of Dakota cavalry, the Prairie battery, and one company of Indian scouts, being in advance. About 11 a. m. the guides announced that they had discovered Indians in large numbers at a place called Tahkahokuty, directly in our front, and at a distance of but a few miles, as reported by them, but which eventually proved to be at least ten miles away.

The position occupied by the Indians consisted of a ridge of buttes, varying from 400 to 800 feet in height, the sides of which were covered with timber and large rocks. Deep, wooded ravines almost inaccessible to cavalry protected nearly the whole front of these buttes. South of this position were lower ranges of buttes, over which it was necessary to pass to reach the almost impregnable position occupied by the enemy. These lower ranges were broken, uneven, and stony.

Upon the announcement of the presence of Indians in our front the line of battle was immediately formed by the general commanding, the Seventh Iowa Volunteer Cavalry being in the center, the Sixth Iowa Cavalry on the right, and the Eighth Minnesota Infantry on the left, the Prairie battery, supported by Company M, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, and the Indian scouts advancing in the interval between the Sixth and Seventh Iowa Cavalry. One battalion, composed of Companies A, G, L, and D, of the Sixth Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, was commanded by Capt. John Galligan, Company A; one battalion (Companies B, E, and F) by Capt. D. C. Cram, Company B: and one battalion (Companies C, H, and I) by Major House. Company G was thrown in advance of the line of skirmishers. Strong parties of Indians came out well mounted (some of them on American horses) and attacked us from eight to ten miles from their position in the bluffs. Six companies, viz, A, C, D, H, I, and L, were dismounted and deployed as skirmishers on the right, Company G dismounted and skirmishing in the advance, three companies (B. E. and F) remaining mounted, and used as a reserve, under command of Capt. D. C. Cram. After advancing and skirmishing about three miles the Indians gathered in large numbers on and near a high butte in front of our left. The Prairie battery took position, and after firing a few rounds dislodged and scattered them. We continued to advance for about two miles farther, constantly skirmishing and driving the enemy before us, when they again massed in large numbers on our right front. A part of the Minnesota battery, supported by Company E, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, was placed in position on our right, and after a few rounds scattered them, they moving still farther to our right near the high bluffs which extended some distance in that direction. A charge was here made upon them by Brackett's Battalion of Minnesota Cavalry, and they were again driven more to our front, gradually falling back to their strongest position in the range of bluffs before indicated. Our line continued to advance, but by direction of the general commanding was not to move in advance of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry on our left, but was to present a connected and continuous line. We were delayed for an hour or more awaiting the advance of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry.

The artillery and cavalry were thrown forward, on the right and left, driving the enemy up in the bluffs. Our line again advanced and reached and took possession of the bluffs about sunset, the artillery having shelled the enemy from their shelter in the woods and behind

the rocks on the sides of the bluffs in our front. But one casualty occurred in the regiment: one man in Company M, Sixth Iowa Cavalry was severely but not dangerously wounded. The day was excessively hot. The men were dismounted and carrying their arms and ammunition (weighing about twenty-five pounds), and the Indians being well mounted, were able generally to move out of the range of our rifles. It is impossible to give with any degree of certainty the number of Indians killed; many, however, were seen to fall from their horses, and several were known to have been killed. We encamped about two miles north of the battle-field, and the next morning started in pursuit of the Indians toward the Little Missouri River, but after marching about two hours were obliged to turn back, having found it impossible to move any farther with wagons in that direction. Upon returning to the battle-field four companies were detailed to destroy property taken from the Indians. A vast amount of property consisting of lodges, poles, and dried meat was destroyed. Both officers and men behaved well throughout.

I have the honor to remain, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. POLLOCK,
Lieut. Col. Sixth Iowa Cavalry Commanding Regiment.

Capt. JOHN H. PELL,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Northwestern Indian Expedition.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH IOWA VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
Camp No. —, August 9, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 8th instant the Sixth Iowa Volunteer Cavalry moved from the camp on the Little Missouri River into the position assigned it as the right column of the First Brigade of the Northwestern Indian Expedition. Immediately after moving into position, and before crossing the river, Indians in large numbers were seen in front and on the right and left of the column; heavy firing was also heard in front. My command was immediately moved forward, closing up to the rear of the Second Brigade, which was that day in advance. I dismounted Companies D and L, deploying them as skirmishers on the right of the column. On the range of high buttes running along the right of the deep ravine through which the column and train were obliged to advance, parties of Indians appeared continually on the flanks, but finding no part of the train unguarded kept mostly out of range of our guns. In this manner we continued to advance for about four miles until we approached two high buttes between which our route was, and from which the enemy had been dislodged by the troops in the advance. The train with the brigade in advance was corralled here and troops stationed on the heights. While the advance had moved forward to secure a position in front, the troops stationed on the heights on the right flank were relieved by Companies C and I, of my command. A part of Company M was also left as a support to a piece placed in position on the right flank of the column by Captain Pope from his battery. The column again moved forward, large numbers of Indians appearing on the flanks and passing around the rear, only coming within range of our carbines occasionally, generally secreting themselves when within range in ravines and behind buttes. The rear was frequently threatened, but

nothing more than skirmishing took place there. The command continued to march in this manner until about 5 p. m., when we arrived at a small lake where we were ordered to bivouac.

We were allowed but a short rest, however, the Indians appearing in large numbers suddenly, covering the buttes in every direction and entirely surrounding the command. Companies A, C, E, G, I, and L were immediately moved out on foot to support the pickets; except coming near enough to exchange a few shots no direct attack was made. Private Alfred J. Nicholson, Company H (which company formed a part of the rear guard), while in rear of his company a few yards, was wounded in the hip by an arrow, inflicting a flesh wound, not dangerous. No other casualties occurred during the day. Six or eight Indians are believed to have been killed during the day, but being on the flank and in rear of the column, no definite statement can be made. Companies A and H were on guard during the night. Companies C, D, F, and L were placed directly in rear of the pickets and near them as a support in case of an attack. The remainder of the regiment slept on their arms. At daybreak on the morning of the 9th Indians in large numbers were discovered occupying the buttes around camp, and particularly in front. Large numbers of them were gathered on every butte or hill near our camp. A hurried meal was soon dispatched and the First Brigade moved in position as the advance brigade. The Indians were gradually moving nearer camp and had already exchanged several shots with the pickets, becoming very insolent and taking possession of every position in our front that would afford them any protection from the artillery. Company C was dismounted, and Company I mounted, were moved forward as a part of the advance guard. One battalion, Companies A, D, G, and L (Capt. John Galligan, Company A, acting major) were now dismounted and moved in front of the right of the brigade as skirmishers. I was then ordered to move forward and drive the Indians from the front and take possession of two high buttes about one mile in advance and which were covered with Indians. The command was given and the six companies last named moved forward at double-quick time, driving the Indians from the buttes and ravines, scattering them wherever they attempted to make a stand, and continuing at this pace made a charge of over two miles in a very few minutes without halting. I was here halted by orders of the general commanding until the column and train came up. The Indians evidently not expecting so rapid an advance, were dismayed and disheartened, and fleeing in every direction disappeared almost entirely from our front, the few remaining keeping at a respectful distance and giving us no farther opportunity of engaging them. No casualties occurred during the day, although several bodies of Indians were closely engaged, but were mostly surprised in ravines, and were too much alarmed to fire with any certain aim, and the only damage received from their fire was the loss of two horses in Company I. Thirteen Indians were known to have been killed, and a number of others were seen to fall, many of them being placed on ponies and carried away by their comrades. Both officers and men behaved well during the entire engagement.

I have the honor to remain, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. POLLOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. JOHN H. PELL,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Northwestern Indian Expedition.

No. 4.

Report of Lieut. Col. John Pattee, Seventh Iowa Cavalry.

HDQRS. THIRD BATTALION, SEVENTH IOWA CAVALRY,
NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Camp No. 36, August 2, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the 28th of July, 1864, the command broke camp on a branch of Knife River at an early hour and marched in a northwestern direction. My battalion was marching in rear of the left column of the First Brigade. At about 10 a. m. information was brought in by the guides that a large body of Indians had been discovered a few miles directly in our front. I was ordered to move my men to the head of the left column. After marching a short distance the Indians appeared in large numbers in front, and I was ordered to dismount my men and deploy them in front as skirmishers. My formation was in the center, the Sixth Iowa Cavalry being on my right and the Eighth Minnesota on the left. As soon as the formation was completed the whole line commenced advancing, and after marching from one and a half to two miles a still larger number of Indians could be seen maneuvering on the base of a large and abrupt range of wooded hills a few miles in front. They soon advanced to meet our line, which continued steadily to advance, and a scattering fire was commenced, the first volley being fired at an Indian who appeared in front brandishing a war club and apparently directing the movements of the others, this being the opening fire of the fight. The fire then became general and continued with intervals along our whole line. Although my men had never before been under fire, they continued to advance steadily and deliberately and met and repelled the charges made by the Indians from time to time with great firmness and composure.

The advance continued in this way about one hour when the Eighth Minnesota, being severely pressed, fell back, leaving my left entirely unsupported and a large break in the line. This I attempted to obviate for some time by extending my intervals and allowing my left to bend slightly to the rear, until a battery and its supports taking up their position on our left, I reformed my line and continued to advance. At this time a battery with its support took up its position on our left and a force of cavalry on the right, and advancing in front of our line drove the Indians out of our reach, when we ceased firing and followed in rear of the cavalry to the foot of the bluffs.

The whole fight lasted about six hours, during which time the Indians were driven a distance of about ten miles.

It is to be regretted that because of the nature of the ground and the Indian way of fighting much of our fire was wasted. The ground over which we advanced was very uneven, and the Indians would gather behind knolls and in ravines on our front and fire upon us and scatter away on their swift-footed ponies.

Too much praise cannot be given to officers and men of my command for the calm bearing and good judgment evinced upon all occasions and under all circumstances.

My troops took no part in any action on the 29th. As to casualties I am happy to state that I lost no men either in killed or wounded.

JOHN PATTEE,
Lieutenant-Colonel Seventh Iowa Volunteer Cavalry.

Capt. JOHN H. PELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 5.

Reports of Maj. Alfred B. Brackett, Brackett's Minnesota Battalion Cavalry.

HDQRS. BRACKETT'S MINNESOTA BATTALION,
NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Camp No. 36, August 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part I took with my command in the action with hostile Indians on July 28, 1864:

I was first ordered to move in column on the right, which I did. Subsequently I received orders to support the line of skirmishers in advance, which I did by bringing Companies B and C in line with Companies A and D as support. I moved in that order some three miles when, finding the enemy massing in considerable force and attacking my right, I engaged them with Company B dismounted, at the same time asking and receiving permission of you to charge them with saber. I immediately gave the order to Capt. E. Y. Shelley, of Company C, to charge them with his company, which order he executed and followed up in a manner highly creditable to himself and those under him. The charge resulted in the killing of 13 Indians found on the field and entirely routing the balance. Finding the enemy forming in large numbers on my left and front I rallied my whole command and found it necessary to dismount them, as I was being severely annoyed from ravines and thickets impracticable for horse. After severe skirmishing, drove the enemy to the base of a high hill, where I met with a strong opposition, they being in strong force on its summit. I finally succeeded in taking possession of the hill, which I held, driving the enemy far beyond. The nature of the ground in front rendering it impracticable to pursue farther at that time, I rejoined your command with my battalion.

In the charge Sergt. George W. Northrup, of Company C, fell, after receiving eight or ten wounds, one of which pierced him through the heart. Horatio N. Austin, of Company D, was also killed while skirmishing. My loss during the day was 2 killed and 8 wounded. I also lost 22 horses, punishing the enemy by killing 27 found dead on the field afterward, besides quite a number that were seen to have been carried off by them.

I take pleasure, general, in saying that my officers and men displayed an amount of courage, coolness, and skill worthy of veterans that they are.

I am, general, with profound respect, yours to command,

A. B. BRACKETT,
Major, Commanding Battalion.

Capt. JOHN H. PELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. BRACKETT'S MINNESOTA BATTALION,
NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Camp No. 46, August 13, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command on the 8th and 9th of August instant:

On the 8th instant my battalion, in the usual order of march, had the left division of the First Brigade. Having received orders early in the

day to maintain this position and cover the train, I moved throughout the day with great caution, sending out small parties on foot as flankers whenever the nature of the ground required such precaution. At one time the enemy seemed to be massing for an attack upon my rear company, but a few volleys from the dismounted flankers caused them to retreat. No casualties occurred during the day. On the 9th instant I received orders to proceed to the front with Company C of my battalion and one section of the Prairie battery, under command of Captain Pope, which order I carried into execution at once. Dismounting two platoons and deploying them as skirmishers, under command of Lieutenant Neely, I ordered Captain Shelley with the remainder of the company to support the battery. The enemy could be seen in great numbers on every side, and seemed determined to resist our progress, but the excellent practice of Captain Pope's howitzers dispersed them with loss and frustrated every attempt to rally for an attack. A running fight was kept up until about 2 p. m., when the Indians disappeared. From the nature of the ground and the distance which the savages maintained, I am unable to estimate their loss, which must have been heavy. The remaining three companies of my battalion marched in the usual order on the left of the First Brigade, under command of Captain Barton, of Company D. Early in the day they were much annoyed by the Indians, and some severe skirmishing ensued. One man of Company D becoming separated from his command had his horse wounded by a bullet, but escaped, after killing or severely wounding 2 Indians. No other loss was sustained.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. BRACKETT,
Major, Commanding Brackett's Minnesota Battalion.

Capt. JOHN H. PELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 6.

Report of Capt. Nelson Miner, First Battalion Dakota Cavalry.

NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Camp No. 36, August 2, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that in the battle of the 28th of July, 1864, my command was held in reserve for a time in rear of the battery of the First Brigade until a space occurred in the skirmishers on the left between the Eighth Minnesota Infantry and Seventh Iowa Cavalry, when I was sent with Company A, of my command, to occupy said space. When, after driving the Indians for some two miles, a large quantity of Indians appeared on the hill in front of us, when we charged up the hill and fired several volleys at short range, with good effect, when Captain Pope with his battery, Company B, of my command, Company M, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, and the Nebraska scouts, came promptly to my support, which caused the Indians to retreat. I then, with Company A, Dakota cavalry, passed to the left of a hill, which was in our front, when the battery, with Company B, of my command, went to the right, when after a little skirmishing the Indians went up the mountains, which were in front of the command. We then halted and soon after returned and camped with the rest of

the command on the battle-field. At an early hour next morning, after ascertaining that it was impossible to follow the Indians farther with any prospect of success, I went to the Indian camp with both companies of my command, in accordance with orders, for the purpose of destroying the property of said Indians, and although several other companies were at work destroying the property of the Indians, my two companies destroyed some 700 skin lodges, a large quantity of buffalo robes, camp equipage, and provisions.

The casualties in my command was only 1 soldier, of Company A, slightly wounded. In conclusion, I beg leave to state that in my opinion great wisdom was displayed in the conducting of said battle by our most worthy general.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

NELSON MINER,
Captain, Commanding Dakota Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED SULLY,
Commanding Expedition.

No. 7.

Report of Capt. Christian Stufft, Independent Company of Indian Scouts.

HDQRS. INDEPENDENT COMPANY OF INDIAN SCOUTS,
August 2, 1864.

According to the circular requesting commanders of regiments, battalions, and companies to hand in an official report of their positions in action on 28th and 29th of July, 1864, I give the following statements:

The position awarded me when line of battle was first formed was in rear of Captain Pope's battery of artillery to support the battery, which position I held until after passing around the high butte on the left, where the Indians had made a strong stand, driving them from the butte down toward their camp on double-quick, frequently halted by Captain Pope while he would send them a few shells. When arriving near the foot of the hill Captain Pope ordered me to go ahead deployed as skirmishers, so that he should not be surprised by parties secreted in ravines. When arriving near a point of timber before us a bold party of warriors came dashing at us; the captain ordered me to halt, which order was obeyed. The captain sent them a few shells, scattering them in every direction; the captain then desired to get a position on a point some distance to the left, where he intended to shell the timber; my position was then on the right; gained the point without any difficulty; only few Indians made their appearance, whom we drove back by few rounds with carbines. The captain then shelled the timber short time; he then desired to gain another point still farther to the left; he then ordered me to march my company by file near the timber on the right; when we reached the point, as I was getting my company into line, and the captain planting his pieces, the Indians fired on us, killing one of my horses and wounding another. I immediately ordered the men to dismount, every fourth man holding horses, and made a charge on the enemy, firing into the dense thicket, killing 2 Indians and wounding 1, which my Winnebago boys afterward killed, scalped, and beheaded. I then returned to the battery, marched some distance

to the left, where we remained until ordered into camp. My officers and men behaved bravely; on 29th marched with headquarters First Brigade, having no action.

C. STUFFT,
Capt., Comdg. Independent Company of Indian Scouts.
ADJUTANT-GENERAL, NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION.

No. 8.

Reports of Capt. Nathaniel Pope, Prairie Battery.

HEADQUARTERS PRAIRIE BATTERY,
Camp on Heart River, August 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in the late fight with Indians at Tahkahokuty, on Thursday, July 28, I was ordered to take position with my battery in advance and fifty yards in rear of the line of skirmishers in front, with orders to fire when I got within range. I advanced slowly to within about 900 yards of the Indians, when I ran one piece forward in front of the skirmish line and fired three rounds of spherical case-shot, killing five or six and wounding several Indians. I was then ordered to move to the left, with instructions to head them off and drive them toward the right. I advanced at a full run, supported by four companies of cavalry, sending one section of the battery and two companies of cavalry on each side of the high butte to the left of our line of battle, wheeling and firing as often as I got within range. The line of skirmishers was a mile in rear of the battery. We succeeded in clearing the knolls on the left and driving the Indians into the ravines under the mountains. I shelled them out of there and forced them into the hills where it was impossible to follow with either artillery or cavalry. We moved again to the left, hoping to find an opening to get the battery on top of the hills, but unfortunately did not succeed in finding a road.

It is impossible to say how many Indians were killed in this movement as the dead were carried off as soon as they fell; but from what I saw and from information since received, I think the number will not fall below 30 killed and wounded; my loss was nothing.

Great praise is due the detailed men on duty with the Prairie battery for their coolness and prompt obedience of orders; and it may not be improper here to mention Captains Miner's and Tripp's companies of Dakota cavalry, Captain Williams' company of the Sixth Iowa Cavalry, and the Nebraska scouts, who gave me all the assistance in their power and were very efficient.

I am, captain, with great respect, your obedient servant,
NATH. POPE,
Captain, Commanding Prairie Battery.

Capt. JOHN H. PELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PRAIRIE BATTERY,
Camp No. 46, Yellowstone River, August 13, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 8th instant, after crossing the Little Missouri River, when the advance

became engaged with the Indians, I was ordered to post two pieces of artillery in the rear, one on each flank, to protect the wagon train, and hold one section in reserve. I took possession of the knolls on each flank as the column advanced, holding them until the rear came up. The Indians appeared in force in the rear, but did not come within range of my guns. Toward evening they showed themselves about 200 strong on the right flank. I masked two pieces behind a knoll and waited until the rear guard closed up. The Indians discovered the trick, however, and I did not get but two shots at long range, doing no damage. When camp was made I was posted on a ridge to the left of headquarters with one piece on a high knoll commanding the ravines on the left. On the morning of the 9th instant I was ordered to report to Captain Jones, of the Third Minnesota Battery, with one section, and to send one section to the rear to report to Lieutenant ———, of Captain Jones' battery. The Indians made their appearance in force on all sides, and about 10 a. m. I was ordered to report to Major Brackett, of Brackett's battalion, who was in advance on the left. We discovered the Indians massing behind some large buttes on the left, evidently preparing to make a charge. We moved forward at a double-quick, shelling them out of the ravines and driving them from their position, when they swung rapidly around to the front. We advanced slowly, firing as often as we came within range, keeping ahead of the line of skirmishers until about 4 p. m. The Indians having disappeared we were ordered to take position in the column. I fired nothing but shrapnel shot at very long range, and as the Indians always carried off their killed and wounded as soon as they fell, I cannot say how many were killed in this movement.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NATH. POPE,
Captain, Commanding Prairie Battery.

Capt. JOHN H. PELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 9.

Reports of Col. Minor T. Thomas, Eighth Minnesota Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. 2D BRIG., NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Camp No. 36, August 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report in relation to the operations of my command during the 28th and 29th of July last:

At 11 a. m. I received notice that the Indian camp was found, and my brigade was ordered from the rear to the left of the First Brigade, and also to direct Captain Jones, Third Minnesota Battery, to report to the brigadier-general commanding, which was promptly done, and advance the command in column, Company K, Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, having the advance as skirmishers. After advancing about two miles, six companies of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Rogers commanding, were dismounted and deployed to the front, on the left of the First Brigade, at three paces intervals. The Second Minnesota Cavalry were held in reserve, marching in column of squadrons, at half distance, 100 paces in the rear of the line on the left. After advancing about one mile a light fire was commenced on

the enemy, who began to appear in large numbers in front, and rapidly passed to the left flank and rear. The left of the Eighth Minnesota was thrown slightly to the rear, and two companies of the Second Minnesota Cavalry dismounted and deployed still farther to the left in that direction. At this time large numbers of Indians were passing in that direction, and attacked the rear guard of the main train, which was promptly repulsed by the guard, which consisted of Companies B and D, Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, and Company B, Second Minnesota Cavalry, and a shell from Lieutenant Whipple's 6-pounder. At this time Colonel McLaren, with two more companies of his regiment, were sent to the front immediately on the left of the Eighth Regiment, when they were dismounted and took possession of a range of sharp hills, which was rapidly done by a sharp skirmish. At this point the left of the whole line was halted and the right thrown forward. After a few minutes the whole line advanced in the same direction, the whole brigade moving as rapidly as possible, much of the time on the run over broken ground, the firing being kept up briskly and with good effect. After advancing about two miles the miserable enemy rapidly retired. The Second Cavalry was mounted and pushed rapidly forward, and the Eighth Regiment closed to the right by companies, and the whole line closed on the enemy's abandoned camp, which was a splendid position for defense. After arriving in the camp four companies of the Eighth Regiment were sent forward to escort Captain Jones' battery to the front for the purpose of shelling a ravine containing water. These companies, under Major Camp, being deployed, advanced through the ravine and ascended the steep hills rapidly, and, in a lively skirmish, drove the rear guard of the enemy from the sight of camp. At dusk the command was withdrawn a short distance to the left and bivouacked for the night. At an early hour in the morning of the 29th the brigade took the advance to the left, searching for a passage after the Indians over the immense hill. After advancing five or six miles the attempt was abandoned, as the ground was so broken that it was impossible to proceed. The command then countermarched and returned to the Indian camp, where Colonel McLaren, with four companies of his regiment, three companies of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, and a large portion of the First Brigade, worked with a will for six hours, destroying the abandoned property of the Indians, which was a very large proportion of all the property belonging to the camp of 1,600 lodges. Late in the afternoon the return march was resumed, and we again encamped on the battle-ground. At dusk two of the pickets, members of Company D, Second Minnesota Cavalry, were surprised and killed by a small party of Indians, which is the only casualty of consequence which occurred in the command during the engagement.

The complete success of our force was owing to the self-possession and bravery of both officers and men, the superiority of their arms, their skill in handling them, and the ready and cheerful obedience to all orders.

It is useless to mention individuals when the whole command did their duty so well. I take pleasure in recommending them to the brigadier-general commanding the expedition as good and faithful soldiers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. T. THOMAS,
Colonel Eighth Minnesota Vols., Comdg. Second Brigade.

Capt. J. H. PELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. 2D BRIG., NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Camp No. 49, August 13, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the Second Brigade in the battles of the 8th and 9th instant with the Sioux:

The brigade being in advance, the guard, consisting of Company D, Eighth Minnesota Infantry, and Company H, Second Minnesota Cavalry, and Company C, Second Minnesota Cavalry, as flankers, were placed under command of Major Rose, Second Minnesota Cavalry, who was ordered to advance cautiously up through the dry bed of a creek from the Little Missouri River, where the road had been constructed the day previous. The Eighth Minnesota Volunteers were directed to follow the advance guard, placing four companies on each flank moving by the flank to the front, the remaining four companies of the Second Minnesota Cavalry to follow the Eighth Regiment. One half of the guard and other troops were dismounted and thrown forward and out on the flanks. The Third Minnesota Battery, leading the train, advanced up the ravine about 800 yards in the rear of the advance guard. After advancing about three miles the scouts were suddenly driven back upon the guard, and the front and flanks were attacked by large bodies of Indians charging upon the line. The steadiness of the troops drove them back, and the section of 6-pounders of the Third Minnesota Battery being brought to the front soon cleared the ground for another advance. The section of howitzers were placed on the flanks to protect the train while it was being parked. The train having all closed up, the advance was again commenced and the Indians driven rapidly back. After advancing about three miles the train was again parked, and the command waited for the First Brigade and Idaho train to close up. Our next advance was unmolested for three or four miles, when the train was halted and watered at a small pond, which afterward was used for the whole command to encamp for the night. About 2 p. m. (the fight having commenced at 7 a. m.) the savages again appeared in front, and the troops were thrown rapidly forward to meet them, a portion of the Eighth Regiment on the right, the 6-pounders in the center to support the advance guard, and portions of the Second Cavalry and Eighth Regiment on the left, the howitzer section and two or three companies protecting the train.

The troops continued to advance for three or four miles, having many lively skirmishes, and were withdrawn at dusk, having inflicted a loss to the enemy of at least 150 warriors and many horses, and of our own troops but 8 soldiers and 1 guide were injured. The courage and steadiness of our men and the range of their arms were too much for the splendid horsemanship and wily dashes of their cowardly opposers. The troops were bivouacked on their arms a hundred paces outside the camp after a thirteen hours' fight.

The action on the 9th consisted in repelling an attack on the rear, which lasted for about three hours, and was done in a handsome and spirited manner, the rear guard being supported by the section of howitzers, with no damage to our side, but a considerable loss to the enemy.

During the engagements the officers and men of the whole command behaved splendidly, their only anxiety being to get nearer the savages, who outnumbered them at least three to one. Soldiers who have acted so well need no special praise.

Hoping the general commanding is satisfied with the operations of the command, I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. T. THOMAS,
Colonel Eighth Minnesota Vols., Comdg. Second Brigade.

Capt. J. H. PELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MINNESOTA BRIGADE,
NORTHWESTERN INDIAN EXPEDITION,
Camp No. 89, Fort Ridgely, Minn., October 9, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of the Minnesota or Second Brigade of the Northwestern Indian Expedition, ordered from this district to join Brigadier-General Sully on the Missouri River:

The force, consisting of the Eighth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, mounted, six companies of the Second Minnesota Cavalry Volunteers, one section of 6-pounder smooth-bore guns, and one section of 12-pounder mountain howitzers, all brass pieces, a corps of forty-five scouts, with a train of ninety-three six-mule teams and twelve ambulances, was rendezvoused at this camp on the 1st day of June, 1864, and took up the line of march on the 6th of June, with thirty days' rations, via the Minnesota and Intpah Rivers and Captain Sully's trail, to Goose Nest Lake on the Minnesota Coteau; from thence to the James River below the mouth of Elm River; from thence to the headwaters of said river, at the foot of the Missouri Coteau; across it to the Bois Cache Creek and down to Swan Lake Creek, which we struck at a point seven miles from the Missouri River, and joined General Sully's command on the 30th day of June, having marched 332 miles.

July 4, marched for Long Lake River; arrived on the 8th; ninety-nine miles. Opposite this point General Sully located Fort Rice. The whole command crossed the river on steam-boats and prepared for a campaign against the Indians, which consumed eleven days. Leaving Fort Rice on the 19th of July, marching up the Cannon Ball River for five days, nearly a west course, thence one day's march north to the Heart River, 110 miles. At this point the main train, with 125 Idaho emigrant wagons that had followed us from Minnesota, were corralled, and, taking six days' rations in light wagons, started north in search of the Indian camp, reported to be on Knife River. On the third day after crossing Knife River we arrived in sight of the enemy's camp, located on a plateau, or succession of rough land, with great rugged buttes overhanging it. The position for defense and safety could not have been better, being protected in front by almost impassable wooded ravines, and in rear, as soon as the hills were ascended through narrow chasms, they were safe from pursuit, except from dismounted men or the equally active Indian ponies belonging to the enemy. For particulars of the engagement please refer to my official report to Brigadier-General Sully, of the date of July 28 and 29. Returned to Heart River July 30, having marched in six days 172 miles, and fought the battle of Tahkahokuty.

Starting from this point August 3, we reached the Little Missouri River August 7, eighty-three miles and a half. At this point the Indians again made their appearance, and made some slight offensive

demonstrations, which were easily quieted. The country for sixteen miles before reaching the river had been of the most terrible and indescribable character, and continued so for twenty miles beyond.

On the morning of the 8th of August, in making an egress from the river bottom, the battle of the Little Missouri, or "The hills that look at each other," commenced and was fought during that and the succeeding day. (A report of the operations of the brigade during the battles of that date inclosed.)*

From the best information it has been ascertained that the Indians that were first encountered at Tahkahokuty had been largely re-enforced by other bands and returned war parties, and certainly felt confident, with the advantages of position (which could not have been better chosen by an enemy), of an easy victory. It certainly was the largest body of Indians ever assembled on the American continent to fight a battle. The Minnesota brigade having the advance in the battle of the 8th instant, had the honor of encountering this immense horde, and fighting nearly all of them through the day, whipping and driving them about twelve miles. Commencing at 7 a. m., the fight was continued until dark of a long summer day, without water, and the thermometer at 110 degrees in the shade. Over buttes, through ravines, rocks, and stones, the wild yells and rapid dashes of the savages, the troop pressed forward with a courage and untiring energy that rapidly overcame all obstacles, and night closed the wild wake, and the men laid down on their arms in line of battle, eager for the morning's light, to again commence the work of death.

Hundreds of the savages lay along the hill-side and ravines. Our loss was but 7 wounded, and a few horses. The Indian shotguns and bows and arrows were no match for the accurate aim and long range of our rifles and carbines, and when the artillery sent shell into their assemblies on the hills and into their retreats in ravines, the cowardly rascals soon learned that they were no match for soldiers that had come 1,000 miles to fight them.

During the 9th instant they entirely disappeared, and our march was continued to the Yellowstone River, over a country almost devoid of water or grass, and two-thirds rations for the men, a distance of 104 miles.

Two small steam-boats met us at this point with rations for the men, and one ration of corn for the animals, and transported our baggage across the river, the trains and horses fording through water running very rapid and so deep that many of them had to swim.

From the 14th to 18th of August was consumed in marching to the Missouri, thirty-two miles, which was crossed by swimming the animals, and on the 21st marched for Fort Berthold, where we arrived on the 28th, 140 miles. A large portion of the distance the grasshoppers had eaten up all vegetation except willows and the very coarsest bottom grass. Marched from Fort Berthold, August 30, to Maison du Chien, hoping to find the Yanktonais that had crossed from the west side of the Missouri, after their last defeat, and also the Minnesota bands. Being unable to find them, turned southward and reached Fort Rice, September 9, having marched 163 miles.

On the return of the command to Fort Rice, we learned that Captain Fisk's Idaho expedition was surrounded and required assistance to save it from destruction. By order of Brigadier-General Sully I detailed 200 men of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, dismounted, and 100 of the

* See p. 167.

Second Minnesota Cavalry, mounted, with a full complement of officers, as part of the relieving force, and having been relieved from duty with the Northwestern Indian Expedition started for Fort Wadsworth, September 15; marched by way of Long Lake, crossing the James River a few miles below the Bone Hills, and reaching the fort September 26; distance, 206 miles.

Having been directed to relieve the battalion of the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry at this post, Major Rose, with Companies B, C, D, and H, Second Minnesota Cavalry, was detached for that purpose.

Major Clowney's battalion, on being relieved, joined the command, marching on the 29th September and reaching this post October 8, four months and three days after our departure. In that time we have marched 1,625 miles.

The behavior of both officers and men has been all that could be desired; their cheerful obedience to all orders, prompt and energetic execution of duty, their patient endurance on long and trying marches, and their bravery and irresistible fighting qualities, have not only endeared them to the hearts of their superior officers but stamped them as true and disciplined soldiers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. T. THOMAS,
Colonel Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. R. C. OLIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Minnesota.

No. 10.

Report of Lieut. Col. Henry C. Rogers, Eighth Minnesota Infantry.

HDQRS. EIGHTH REGIMENT MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERS,
Camp No. 36, August 1, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 28th of July last my regiment took up the line of march at 4 a. m., and after marching about seventeen miles arrived in sight of the enemy's camp, some ten miles distant, where the disposition of battle was made, my regiment occupying the following position: Company B, Captain Pettit, forming a part of the rear guard; Company D, Captain McLarty, with his company deployed as flankers on the right flank of the command, which position was occupied by them until the commencement of the battle, when they assembled and remained in the rear of the train as a support to the rear guard. Company C occupied a position as support to Captain Jones, of the Third Minnesota Battery. Company K was advanced to the front and deployed as skirmishers, covering the front of the Second Brigade. The remaining companies of my regiment, consisting of Companies A, E, F, G, H, and I, were placed in position on the right flank of the Second Brigade and parallel to the First Brigade. In this position we commenced to advance toward the enemy's camp. At about 11 a. m., and in obedience to orders from Colonel Thomas, commanding Second Brigade, I dismounted the six companies above mentioned, leaving the horses in charge of every fourth man, and the whole of the troops in charge of the led horses, under the command of Major Camp. With

the remainder of the six companies, consisting of about 325 men, I advanced to the front and formed a line of battle on the right of the Second Brigade. I was then ordered to deploy my regiment to the left as skirmishers, three paces apart, and advance upon the enemy, which order was promptly obeyed. After advancing steadily for about three miles with but little opposition, the enemy falling back as we advanced, he made a threatening movement by turning my left flank near by among the bluffs, and passed in large numbers to my rear. I then ordered Lieutenant Tibbetts, Company A, with twenty-five men, to take a position on the bluffs covering our left, which order was promptly obeyed, but he was soon after relieved by order of Colonel Thomas, and again resumed his place in the order of battle. From this point my command continued to advance steadily, driving the enemy before them, until within a short distance of the enemy's camp, which he had abandoned, when I was ordered to close by company on the right of skirmishers, and remount my command, after which I advanced to the abandoned camp of the enemy, where we arrived about 6 p. m. of that day. I was then ordered to dismount four companies and take possession of the hill in front, to cover the advance of the Third Minnesota Battery. In obedience to said order I dismounted Companies E, F, H, and I, and placed them under command of Major Camp, with orders to advance and take possession of the bluffs in front, which order was promptly obeyed. The report of Major Camp is herewith submitted. I remained with the remaining companies of my command in possession of the camp abandoned by the enemy until the return of Major Camp at dusk, when I marched with my regiment to the place designated for camp. On the next day my regiment moved with the command, and, upon the return to camp, I was ordered to detail three companies to assist in destroying the provisions, stores, and camp equipage abandoned by the enemy in their hasty flight. In obedience to said order, I directed Companies B, E, and F, under the command of Captain Pettit, to proceed to the camp abandoned by the enemy and assist in destroying said stores. After this had been accomplished the command again took up the line of march and went in camp about 6 p. m., my regiment occupying the left of the Second Brigade. At about dusk our pickets were fired upon by the enemy, and I was ordered by Colonel Thomas to throw my regiment in line of battle around the camp, joining with the Second Cavalry on the right and left, which was done promptly. We remained in this position for nearly two hours, when we were relieved and ordered to return to camp, [and] the men instructed to sleep on their arms.

During the battle of the 28th of July some 25 of the enemy were seen to fall in front of my regiment, but they were carried away by their friends. The number killed, including those reported by Major Camp, could not have been less than 25 or 30, and a much larger number wounded. With the exception of 1 horse in Company K wounded, there were no casualties in my regiment. I take pleasure in bearing testimony to the promptness with which every order was obeyed by the officers and soldiers of my command. Where all did their duty it is unnecessary to particularize.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. ROGERS,

Lieutenant-Colonel Eighth Minnesota, Comdg. Regiment.

Lieut. GEORGE W. BUTTERFIELD,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 11.

Report of Maj. George A. Camp, Eighth Minnesota Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERS,
Camp No. 36, August 1, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 28th of July last, in obedience to the order of Lieutenant-Colonel Rogers, I took command of Companies E, I, F, and H, of my regiment, at 6 p. m., at the camp abandoned by the enemy, and advanced to the front, covering Captain Jones' Third Minnesota Battery, and deployed them to the right as skirmishers, and then advanced up the side of the bluff without opposition until we arrived near its top, where the enemy attempted to check our advance with a force of from 250 to 300 warriors. But the steady advance and prompt fire of my men soon drove them from their strong position, with a loss upon their part of some 12 killed and a large number wounded. I then occupied the bluff with my command until I received orders from Brigadier-General Sully to return to camp, which order I obeyed, reporting to Lieutenant-Colonel Rogers at my place of advance about dusk.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. A. CAMP,
Major Eighth Minnesota Volunteers.

No. 12.

Report of Col. Robert N. McLaren, Second Minnesota Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND MINNESOTA CAVALRY,
July 29, 1864.

I have the honor most respectfully to report that, in accordance with Special Orders, No. 62, headquarters Northwestern Indian Expedition, Camp No. 34, July 29, 1864, I proceeded to the Indian camp with four companies of Second Minnesota Cavalry, Major Rice commanding, and two companies of Dakota cavalry, Captain Miner commanding; four companies of the Sixth Iowa and three companies Eighth Minnesota Infantry, under Major Camp. On arriving at the camp a few straggling Indians were seen lurking about the bluffs. I immediately dismounted and deployed Company G, Second Minnesota Cavalry, who skirmished through the timber and remained in a position to protect the working parties. I commenced by disposing of the various forces so as to destroy with the least delay the vast quantities of goods left in the timber and ravines adjacent to the camp. The men gathered into heaps and burned tons of dried buffalo meat packed in buffalo skin cases, great quantities of dried berries, buffalo robes, tanned buffalo, elk, and antelope skins, household utensils, such as brass and copper kettles, mess pans, &c., riding saddles, dray poles for ponies and dogs.

Finding that one day was too short a time to make the destruction complete, I ordered the men to gather only the lodge poles in heaps and burn them, and then deployed the men and fired the woods in every direction; the destruction was thus complete, and everywhere was manifest the rapid flight of the Indians, leaving everything, even their dogs and colts tied to the pickets. In skirmishing the timber

dead Indians were found killed by exploding shells. After a thorough examination of the camping-ground, and by judging from the amount of lodge poles burnt, I should judge the camp to have numbered 1,400 lodges. I would report that after the work of destruction commenced the Indians carried a white flag on the bluff close to the camp. As I could not interpret the meaning at this particular time, I did not feel called upon to report the fact to you until I had accomplished the object and carried out Order No. 62.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. N. McLAREN,
Colonel Second Minnesota Cavalry.

Capt. JOHN H. PELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 13.

Report of Maj. C. Powell Adams, Independent Battalion Minnesota Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FORT ABERCROMBIE,
August 26, 1864.

SIR: About 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the 23d instant four men on their way up from Georgetown with two teams were attacked by a party of ambushed Sioux Indians at Lewiston, twenty-eight miles below here, and 3 of them killed, 2 instantly and the other mortally wounded, so that he died early next morning. Information reached me about 7.30 o'clock the same evening of these murders. I immediately ordered out twenty men each from A and B companies, with one day's rations, under Captain Mix and Lieutenant Miner, and taking command of the detachment in person I was under way for the scene of the outrage within thirty minutes from the arrival of the messenger. I proceeded to a point within three or four miles of Lewiston and halted to await the coming of daylight. As soon as it was sufficiently light I pushed rapidly forward, and in a few minutes' ride reached the half-breed train one mile this side of the point where the attack was made, and found one of the murdered men lying in his wagon just as he had fallen, by the name of M. Lusta, and also the man Dean, who was then in the agonies of death, and in fact, died before we had finished burying Lusta. Sending the teams to the fort with Dean's body under an escort, I moved rapidly down the road and soon found the body of the other murdered man, named Brisse, lying immediately by the road side, horribly mutilated. The scalp, whiskers, and ears, and a part of the under lip gone, the head cut half off and the left hand severed at the wrist. The body was perfectly nude. While burying this body I made a thorough reconnaissance of the immediate vicinity, and my Scout Quinn soon discovered the point where the red devils recrossed the river. Preparations were immediately made to cross the river in pursuit. The crossing was accomplished after much hard labor. The trail was fresh and distinct, and I pressed the pursuit with the greatest possible energy. The trail led a little south of west across the plain to the nearest timber on the Cheyenne, some twelve miles distant, and then followed the river up a number of miles, when it crossed at a point where it was impossible for cavalry to cross without a bridge, nearer than the old crossing, some eight miles above. By this time the sun was almost down, the horses very much jaded, and the men out of provisions, and I was compelled by the very force of circumstances—circumstances against

which no preparations had been made, for at the time of leaving the fort I placed little credence in the reputed murders—to abandon further pursuit, and to return to the fort, where the detachment arrived at 12 m. of this day, having in forty hours marched a distance of eighty miles, and with horses that have had not a mouthful of grain for a month, and nothing but grass on the march which they plucked at various points where we were compelled to halt. With good horses and two more days' provisions I feel satisfied that I could have overtaken the savages and destroyed the whole of them, twenty-one in number. These Indians were all naked excepting a breech clout, as Mr. Dean informed me before his death. The murdered men all resided in Saint Cloud and leave families to mourn their untimely death. I will give you further details of this bloody outrage by the next mail. This will reach you by a special messenger who leaves here on furlough to-morrow morning. I have put the various detachments of this command in the very best possible condition of efficiency, and if attacked by the Indians or can get within striking distance of them will give a good account of themselves. Nothing shall be left undone that energy and vigilance can accomplish.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. POWELL ADAMS,
Major, Comdg. Independent Battalion Minnesota Vol. Cav.

Capt. R. C. OLIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Minnesota.

JULY 26, 1864.—Attack on Shelbina, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

SAINT JOSEPH, *July 26, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have just received intelligence that the rebels, nearly 500 strong, entered Shelbina to-day; tore up the railroad track, burned two trains of cars, and caused much other destruction. I move the First Iowa eastward to-morrow morning from Cameron and ascertain extent of damage. The storm is upon us in its fury, and every loyal man in this district must spring to arms and put this thing down quickly. As nearly as I can judge we have near there 3,000 well armed and mounted veteran rebels this side the river. Is there an abundance of arms at Saint Louis?

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

JULY 26–28, 1864.—Scout to Searcy and West Point, Ark.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, U. S. Army.

DEVALL'S BLUFF, *July 28, 1864*—4.30 p. m.

CAPTAIN: Captain Williams, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, returned this noon from scout to Searcy and West Point. There was no force near

Searcy. After entering West Point and destroying the machinery of mill there a detachment of his scouts, consisting of two commissioned officers and eighteen men, while waiting at a house for the main command was surprised by a party of rebels numbering about sixty, under command of Rayborne, who were dressed in Federal uniform principally. Our men were ordered by their captain [not] to fire. Shots were, however, exchanged. One of our men was killed; 2 of the enemy were killed. Two commissioned officers and 16 men are still missing; three arrived at Brownsville this morning. Captain Williams also destroyed the machinery of a mill at Searcy. From a citizen brought from Searcy by Captain Williams I learn that Shelby was at Pickett's, half way between Augusta and Jacksonport, last Sunday; his main force was on that (east) side of the river then. It was reported there was to be a move on Monday, but the citizen is sure his force has not yet crossed to the west side of White River. It would seem that the only force now directly north of here is a company or two of men doing scouting and picket duty from West Point down to Des Arc. Captain Williams brought in twelve colored recruits. He thinks the most of the missing men will yet come in.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JULY 26–31, 1864.—Scout in Johnson County, Mo.

Report of Capt. William B. Ballew, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAMP GROVER,
Near Warrensburg, Mo., July 31, 1864.

MAJOR: In pursuance to Special Orders, No. —, issued by commanding officer of the camp, placing me in command of scouting party consisting of twenty-nine enlisted men of Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, on the 26th instant, I have the honor to report the result as follows:

I left camp near Warrensburg on the evening of the 26th instant in a southwest direction, which led me on to what is known as the west prong of Post Oak Creek. I proceeded up that creek to the head of the same. I then turned and came back several miles, and then went up what is known as the little prong of Post Oak to Chilhowee. I found one camp of the guerrillas just evacuated on the west prong of Post Oak. I suppose they left, hearing our approach; they scattered in every direction, one and two together. I followed different trails of them as long as I could through the brush. Two of the same squad, I suppose, crossed a prairie east of Chilhowee and entered the brush on Clear Fork. We followed these two last-mentioned bushwhackers into Clear Fork brush and lost their trail. I then proceeded down Clear Fork, which ran in a northerly direction, to where it empties into Blackwater. Near its mouth I found a trail of from eight to fifteen, I suppose. This squad seemed to stay together and was going in an eastward direction. My guide said they were in the direction for Walnut Creek. From thence I proceeded up Blackwater to this station. I found some fresh sign on Blackwater; all seemed to be going down

the creek. I thoroughly scoured the region of country through which I passed, not having traveled more than twenty-five miles of my trip in a road; distance traveled, 150 miles in all. I learned, however, from a lady that there had been seen three strange men in her field on the 29th instant, the day before we passed down the creek. The lady lives about six miles south of Knobnoster on Clear Fork, but we could not find them or their trail.

I have the honor, major, to remain, your obedient servant,

WM. B. BALLEW,
Capt. Co. K, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cav., Comdg. Scout.

Maj. T. W. HOUTS,
Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Commanding Camp.

JULY 27–28, 1864.—Skirmishes on the Blackwater River (27th), and on Big Creek, Mo. (28th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 2.—Capt. Melville U. Foster, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

WARRENSBURG, *July 30, 1864.*

MAJOR: A corporal and four men of Company G, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, while hunting a stray horse on Blackwater on the 28th were attacked by Dick Yeager, with about twenty men; a running fight ensued in which 2 guerrillas were killed, and Yeager severely wounded. No casualties on our side.

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Reports of Capt. Melville U. Foster, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HOLDEN, *July 29, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: Corporal Hisey, Company G, with four men, while hunting stray horse, were attacked day before yesterday evening, on Blackwater, by Dick Yeager and twenty men; drove the guerrillas into the brush, after severely wounding Yeager, and made good their escape. Have just returned from Big Creek, after running fight all day yesterday with a squad of Yeager's men; killed 2. Yeager's band is scattered into small squads over this country.

M. U. FOSTER,
Captain, Commanding.

Capt. J. H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HOLDEN, MO., *July 31, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report marches, scouts, &c., of troops under my command for ten days ending July 31, 1864:

July 22, having learned that bushwhackers were in the habit of visiting the church at Columbus during service, proceeded with Lieutenants Pharis and Christian with twenty men of both companies; found no rebels, however; returned: traveled twenty miles. July 27, Corporal Hisey, with four men, Company G, while hunting stray horse on Blackwater, eight miles from camp, were attacked by Yeager and twenty men. The corporal and his little squad stood their ground bravely, and drove the rebels to brush, severely wounding Yeager himself, and capturing 1 horse; returned to camp; no one hurt; traveled twenty miles. July 28, sent Sergeant Allen and twenty men, Company C, to mouth of Panther Creek on Big Creek, with instructions to drive down; proceeded myself with Lieutenant Marr and twenty men to Lincoln Ford on Big Creek, to wait till the sergeant drove the bushmen down. The sergeant started about twenty, said to be Yeager's men, early in the morning; drove them easily. They missed me a short distance. I learned of the affair and found their trail, overtook Company C, who were still after the rebels, pushed them hard and overtook them near Mrs. Pemberton's, and after a smart skirmish killed 2 and wounded 4; lost no one. Captured 3 horses, 2 saddles and bridles, and 1 revolver; one of the horses captured was so badly wounded as to be unable to travel, and was therefore left in the neighborhood; lost 1 horse shot, and 1 horse and equipments: the men having been dismounted the horses escaped in the charge. I would respectfully ask permission to replace horses lost by those captured: traveled fifty miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. U. FOSTER,
Captain, Commanding.

Lieut. J. N. PENNOCK,
Adjt. Seventh Regt. Cav. Mo. State Mil., Warrensburg, Mo.

JULY 27–30, 1864.—Scout in Chariton County, Mo., with skirmishes (30th) on the Chariton Road, near Keytesville, and at Union Church.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

No. 2.—Capt. Joseph Stanley, Thirty-fifth Infantry, Enrolled Missouri Militia.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

SAINT JOSEPH, MO., *August 2, 1864.*

COLONEL: Lieutenant Benecke and forty-four men, of Captain Stanley's militia company, stationed at Keytesville, Chariton County, attacked Holtzclaw's marauders in the forks of the Chariton, on Saturday morning last, killing four of them. The fight was a spirited one. Six of the Thornton guerrillas were killed yesterday.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

No. 2.

Reports of Capt. Joseph Stanley, Thirty-fifth Infantry, Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. CO. B, THIRTY-FIFTH REGT. ENROLLED MO. MILITIA,
Keytesville, Mo., July 30, 1864.

DEAR SIR: There is and has been for several days a band of Confederate troops in this county east of Chariton River, near 300 strong, under Col. C. D. Holtzclaw. He has recruited many in forks of Chariton. I have been scouting several days endeavoring to locate them. While I was laboring to get re-enforcements on 28th instant, Col. William E. Moberly sent to my support seventy men under Captain Brawner. Captain Brawner said his men would fight bushwhackers, but he did not know that they would fight Confederate soldiers, and as the bushwhackers had Confederate flag I did not choose to lead such men into battle. B. Owen, first lieutenant of Captain Brawner's company, said some of his men would aid bushwhackers by giving them all information they could. Yesterday I received a dispatch from Holtzclaw explaining his course as one not of choice, but carrying out instructions from Confederate Government. He directed me to constrain my troops or he would be compelled to put to death Union men and radicals.

2 p. m., just received a dispatch from my first lieutenant, who left here this morning with forty-five men. He engaged seventy-five rebels whilst at dinner, killing 4, capturing 4 pistols, and driving the whole mess from grub to the brush. One of our boys wounded.

2.30 o'clock, Captain Brackman arrived with seventy men. He will be in chase soon. It is now we need uniforms. Please forward uniforms as soon as possible and oblige,

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH STANLEY,
Captain, Commanding Post.

P. S.—GENERAL: Price, of Captain Bucksath's command, had an interview with Holtzclaw yesterday. Holtzclaw agreed to leave the county in three days if not disturbed. Hope I have spoiled the trade.

J. STANLEY,
Captain.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK.

HDQRS. CO. B, THIRTY-FIFTH REGT. ENROLLED MO. MILITIA,
Keytesville, Mo., August 2, 1864.

DEAR SIR: On the 30th of July I directed First Lieut. Louis Benecke, with forty-three men, to proceed to Union Church, near Moses Hurt's, in the forks of Chariton, to search for guerrillas, which I knew were somewhere in that vicinity. Lieutenant Benecke reports when at the church he discovered trail, which he followed at a brisk gait, and, when nearing Nathaniel Butler's residence, twelve miles east of this, pickets were discovered running in toward Butler's house, where there was a band of seventy-five bushwhackers under command of Holtzclaw and Jackson just in the act of taking breakfast. They were charged upon at once and supplied with Federal pepper. They flew to horse in great haste and confusion. They were completely routed, but soon formed and charged, but were repulsed with loss. They rallied again and again, but were repulsed at every point. The enemy's loss reported 4 killed and not less than 12 wounded, amongst whom was

Captain Jackson, severely. One of their horses left dead on the battle-ground. Our loss 1 horse mortally wounded, 1 man slightly. After the battle was over we picked up 4 revolvers and several shotguns and blankets and coats and 1 horse. We then proceeded to Glasgow for re-enforcements. We then proceeded to search for camp, but in vain. Arrived in quarters at Keytesville Sunday eve, July 31, since which time I have not heard of Holtzclaw's or Jackson's men, excepting six or seven who returned to Captain Bucksath's company, which they had left only a few days before fight. They report Holtzclaw conscripted them.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH STANLEY,
Captain, Commanding Post.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri, Saint Joseph, Mo.

JULY 28, 1864.—Skirmish on the Morgan's Ferry Road, near Morganza, La.

Report of Brig. Gen. Michael K. Lawler, U. S. Army.

MORGANZA, *July 29, 1864.*
(Received 10 a. m.)

GENERAL: From sources which I think are reliable I have learned that a movement on this place by the rebels had commenced on the 14th instant, but has since been abandoned, and that the enemy are now moving toward Black River to obtain subsistence. A portion of them have also gone to Arkansas. This information I deem entitled to credit. I sent out an expedition yesterday, under General Ullmann, on the Morgan's Ferry road. Met the enemy about 200 strong, had a skirmish and scattered them, killing 5, capturing 2, and wounding others. Lost 2 men killed, a few wounded, among the latter, Colonel Chrysler, rather severely in the neck. Our force pushed on to the Atchafalaya. The enemy had three guns in position on the opposite side, and a camp apparently of 150 cavalry. Could do nothing with our artillery on account of the high ground and sharpshooting. In a day or two I shall organize a force to break up their camp effectually, if possible.

M. K. LAWLER.

Major-General REYNOLDS.

JULY 29, 1864.—Affair at Highland Stockade, near Baton Rouge, La.

Report of Brig. Gen. William P. Benton, U. S. Army.

BATON ROUGE, *July 29, 1864—8.15 p. m.*

CAPTAIN: Two men of the Fourteenth New York Cavalry, at Highland Stockade, while on picket this a. m., were shot and severely wounded by the rebels. There were three men and a corporal at the post that was attacked, two of the men making their escape unhurt with the loss of their horses, arms, and accouterments, the corporal and remaining man being shot.

W. P. BENTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. OLIVER MATTHEWS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

JULY 30, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the general commanding for information. The Highland Stockade is garrisoned by six companies Fourteenth New York Cavalry, per last report from that district. Inspectors are now making a thorough overhauling of the affairs at Baton Rouge.

T. W. SHERMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

JULY 29, 1864.—Skirmishes near Napoleonville, La.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

No. 2.—Col. Hasbrouck Davis, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, commanding Post of Napoleonville, La.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

THIBODEAUX, *July 30, 1864.*
(Received 12 m.)

CAPTAIN: Our pickets between Paincourtville and Lake Natchez were attacked last night by two parties of rebels, one of thirty and one of twenty-six men; they were repulsed, the enemy losing 1 killed and 3 wounded, 1 horse killed and 2 captured, and 15 muskets and shotguns. They are rumored to have in reserve at Grand Bayou a considerable force with four pieces of artillery. I have ordered Colonel Davis, at Napoleonville, to push them with his whole available force, and to drive them across Grand River. I am holding the Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry and a section of artillery ready here if he needs re-enforcements. As soon as I hear anything of importance from Colonel Davis I will telegraph.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. O. MATTHEWS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Defenses of New Orleans.

(Copy to Maj. Geo. B. Drake, assistant adjutant-general.)

[Indorsement.]

DEFENSES OF NEW ORLEANS,
July 30, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the general commanding Department of the Gulf for information. General Cameron has been telegraphed in reply that his measures for overtaking the enemy are approved. Whatever force of the enemy he may have in his front there are two objects always to be fulfilled: First, to capture or destroy the enemy; second, to hold on to the Bayou La Fourche. The second condition will not prevent a cavalry dash to the Grand River if he judiciously disposes his forces. Indeed the two objects to be fulfilled admit of a beautiful combination,

which I know from the character of General Cameron he will not fail to make if the occasion requires it. Not intending to trammel the general with minute instructions as he is on the spot, I desire that he should always keep these two points in view whilst in command on the La Fourche, and if he ever finds it necessary to relinquish either, it is unnecessary to say it must be the first.

T. W. SHERMAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS LA FOURCHE DISTRICT,
Thibodeaux, La., July 30, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Inclosed I have the honor to hand you Colonel Davis' report of the attack on his pickets last night.* I find on examining the letters captured that they are letters written by the soldiers to their friends while at Camp Brent, on Bayou Boeuf, on the 20th, and not mailed. The most important language I see in them is this:

> Our army is now marching slowly toward Pointe Coupée. Walker's division is going to Morgan's Ferry.

I am, truly, yours,

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding District.

Captain MATTHEWS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Defenses of New Orleans.

No. 2.

Reports of Col. Hasbrouck Davis, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, commanding Post of Napoleonville, La.

HEADQUARTERS NAPOLEONVILLE,
July 30, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report an attack [on] my pickets last night. Three days ago I sent Captain Howk and Company L, seventy men and two commissioned officers, to picket and patrol the roads from Paincourtville toward Lake Natchez. I yesterday sent thirty men of I Company, under Lieutenant Graves, to increase the force. The inclosed chart† will give you an idea of the position of the force last night. The camp of reserves was at No. 1 on the Spanish road; a picket of six men was at No. 2 on the Spanish road; a picket of four men was at No. 3 on the military road; a picket of four men was at No. 4 on the military road; a picket of five men was at No. 5 on the military road. No. 5 is about three miles out from the bayou. At 9 p. m. a patrol of one sergeant and eight men was sent across the plantations toward Marcelin Le Blanc's house, marked No. 6 on the chart. At that house they struck a considerable rebel picket and drove them away after a brisk skirmish, in which the rebels lost 1 man killed and 2 wounded, 1 horse killed and 2 captured. The patrol also took 15 guns, mostly fowling-pieces. The rebel party was probably Boone's battery, which had come into this county to steal horses. The patrol fell back to the pickets on the military road and were not pursued. Simultaneously with the above the pickets at Nos. 4 and 5 were attacked by a party coming across the plantation from a northerly direction. A

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* See next, *post*.
† Omitted as of no present importance.

few shots were exchanged, and the rebels retired. We suffered no loss in either affair. Captain Howk immediately moved up with his reserve force, and I dispatched Lieutenant Gray, with twenty-five men of Company M, from Napoleonville, making in all a force of 125 men. They moved up briskly beyond Le Blanc's plantation, but could find no further trace of the enemy. From the letter which I send you herewith, taken from captured saddle-bags, and from other information, I conclude that the first rebel party was thirty men of Boone's battery, armed with stolen shotguns, and the second party was twenty-six men of some cavalry regiment, probably the Fourth Louisiana. Whether other forces are in reserve is a matter of uncertainty, but I do not believe that there is any considerable force there. You will see from these letters that the battery left Bayou Boeuf after the 20th July, under the impression that the Union forces had left the district. I have just received your order by telegram to move my whole force in that direction and shall move at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. DAVIS,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. B. B. CAMPBELL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, La Fourche District.

JULY 31, 1864.

The expedition has returned safely. Both of the parties who attacked my pickets on Friday belonged to Boone's battery and were commanded by Lieutenant Picon, formerly of Donaldsonville, and were only after horses [and] plunder. They came to and crossed Bayou Grand on Friday night and after the affair of the pickets went back kiting across the bayou. The same night, about four or five miles from the bayou, they broke into squads, and leaving the road struck across the swamps to Grand River, which they crossed. They were in more hurry to get away than they were to come. I followed their tracks to the point where they broke up. The road this side the bayou is a mere wood track, almost impassable, the mud being often to the horses' bellies, and the swamp is perfectly impassable to any body of men. As I formerly reported to you, there are a few of Journal's cavalry at Point Marsigner, behind Plaquemine, but none between the La Fourche and that place. At the same time there are thieves and jayhawkers about in this parish. The party that went to Gentilly's plantation on Natchez Bay [returned] safely without [seeing] an enemy.

H. DAVIS,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. B. B. CAMPBELL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

JULY 29–AUGUST 2, 1864.—Expedition from Warrensburg to Chapel Hill, Mo., with skirmish (July 30) near Chapel Hill.

Report of Lieut. Elisha Horn, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAMP GROVER,
Near Warrensburg, Mo., August 2, 1864.

COLONEL: Pursuant to Special Orders, No. 40, headquarters Camp Grover, July 27, 1864, in command of ninety-three men, I marched on the evening of the 29th of July, 1864, for the northwest part of Johnson

County, near Offet's Knob, at which point I arrived at daybreak on the morning of July 30. After feeding and resting my men and horses a short time I moved in the direction of the headwaters of Honey Creek, it being to the northeast, and near Wagon Knob. The country between the points last mentioned is heavily skirted with brush. While passing through this country I dismounted a portion of my command and deployed right and left, and made a thorough search, and found a vacated rebel camp two miles east of the Widow Rennick's, the only discovery of importance in said brush. From Wagon Knob I moved to the northwest in the direction of Chapel Hill. On arriving near the Hill I discovered a band of fifteen or twenty bushwhackers, one mile and a half south of that place, in a grove. I deployed my command so as to cover the grove, and then made a charge on them; killed 1 man and wounded another; captured 2 horses, 3 double-barrel shotguns, 1 single-barrel shotgun, and 1 common rifle. I ordered the arms to be broken. I scouted the country over for five or six miles south and west of Chapel Hill; found a few scattering rebels; fired a few shots, but to no effect, after which I returned to camp, by way of Holden, Mo., August 2, 1864, without the loss of either man or horse, traveling a distance of 100 miles.

ELISHA HORN,
First Lieut. Company K, Seventh Missouri State Mil. Cavalry.

Col. JOHN F. PHILIPS,
Commanding Camp.

JULY 30, 1864.—Skirmish at Hay Station No. 3, near Brownsville, Ark.

Report of Lieut. Col. John W. Stephens, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

BROWNSVILLE, *July 30, 1864.*

Hay Station No. 3, garrisoned by my men, was attacked this morning about 9 o'clock, by about 200 rebels. They were, however, repulsed, with a loss of 1 killed and a number wounded. No casualties on our side, except some of the citizens taken prisoners, and about 18 or 20 horses stampeded during the fight. They went toward the Bluff. Look out for your stock grazing on the prairie.

JOHN W. STEPHENS,
Lieut. Col. Eleventh Cavalry Missouri Volunteers.

General ANDREWS,
Devall's Bluff.

JULY 30, 1864.—Skirmish near Pine Bluff, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Lieut. James E. Teale, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 2.—Lieut. Adam W. Hill, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Lieut. James E. Teale, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *October 17, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 29th day of July, 1864, I was detailed to take charge of an escort of forty men from my regi-

ment to go out and repair the telegraph wire between this place and Little Rock. I found the wire cut about sixteen miles from this place and so much of it carried away that we did not have sufficient wire to repair the break. I proceeded on to the cross-roads, about four miles beyond and twenty miles from this place, where we camped for the night. Started on the next morning just before daybreak and went three miles farther to what is called the Half-Way House. I then returned to the place where the wire was down, we having picked up wire to repair the break, after which continued on the return, stopping once or twice to take up the wire where it was too low. When about ten miles from this place the advance guard, under Sergeant Gibson, Company M, who being unacquainted with his duties, and disregarding the instructions I had given him not to lose sight of the column, got so far ahead as to be out of hearing, crossed a bayou and went on to a house some three-quarters of a mile beyond, where he halted, placed out two sentinels, and allowed the rest of his men to dismount, hitch their horses, and go for water. Sergeant Gibson was informed by a woman living at the house where he stopped, that the enemy had been seen near there in large numbers about two hours before, and believed that they were still near. The advance guard had been halted about fifteen or twenty minutes when they were fired upon by the enemy from each end of the lane in which they were halted. I was at that time about 500 or 600 yards from the bayou. I immediately ordered the men to get their carbines ready and to gallop. When about fifty yards from the bridge where the road crosses the bayou [we] were suddenly fired upon by a large force of the enemy concealed in the brush and from across the bayou. I ordered the men to fire and come on. Only two men crossed the bridge with me; the others broke into the brush and scattered. I attempted to return to the other side of the bayou, was cut off and pursued into the woods for a long distance, finally making my way back to this place, and reporting the circumstances at the headquarters of the regiment and post. Major Behlendorff, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, was sent out with 100 men from his regiment; also Captains Norris and Brown, Lieutenants Hill, Bailey, Temple, and myself, with others that I do not remember. Major Behlendorff went to the bayou where the attack was made. The bodies of Sergeant Martin, Company M, and a private of Company I, were found. The body of Sergeant Martin was stripped. There were also 2 wounded and 8 missing, 3 of whom have since returned. The detachment remained in that vicinity something like two hours, keeping out guards in every direction. An unoccupied house was burned near the bayou. I cannot say who set the house on fire, as I did not observe it till the flames were bursting out of the roof. I heard no orders given to burn houses, nor any threats made that there would be any burned, neither did I hear any officer encourage the men in any acts of destruction or violence, except against the armed enemy. As far as I could observe, Major Behlendorff used every exertion to preserve order and discipline in his command, and was very watchful to guard against being surprised. The men were kept almost constantly in line; mounted or standing to horse. I did not see or hear of any other houses being burned that day. The detachment arrived back at this place about 10 p. m. of the same day.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. TEALE,
Second Lieutenant, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

Lieut. S. MONTE CAMBERN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Adam W. Hill, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY M, THIRTEENTH ILLINOIS CAV. VOLS.,
Post of Pine Bluff, Ark., October 20, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with your request to give you a written statement of my observations in regard to the telegraph escort that started from this place July 29, 1864, I beg leave to state the following:

That in the afternoon of July 29 an escort consisting of forty men, commanded by Lieutenant Teale, of the Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, started from this place; that about 3 o'clock next day (July 30) word was brought to this regiment (I think by Lieutenant Teale) that the party was attacked by a large force of the enemy at the bridge nine or ten miles from here on the telegraph line. A portion of this regiment, under command of Major Behlendorff, immediately started out to re-enforce our men. We arrived at the bridge about one hour before sunset. The enemy had left the vicinity. We found two men dead on the battle-ground, whom we placed in an ambulance and started back. About half an hour before starting Captain Norris, with some ten or fifteen men, was ordered back by Major Behlendorff, with directions to stop at the house about half a mile this side the bridge (where on our advance was found one of our wounded men of the telegraph escort) and give the inmates of the house five minutes to get out with their most valuable effects and then to set fire to the house. Our column moved forward and when within about 400 yards of the house Major Behlendorff observed, "Why is not that house burning, as I ordered?" He then moved rapidly forward. I accompanied him, as I was acting as his aide-de-camp on that occasion. Captain Norris apologized for disobeying orders, stating that the wounded man was well cared for and that the family professed to be friends of the Union and its advocates. The major rode into the yard and conversed with the family a few minutes. I did not hear the conversation, but heard the major observe to the family when leaving that they had better move as soon as possible and go to their southern brethren. A few minutes afterward I, and I think the entire force, observed the house in our rear a few hundred yards on fire. It created considerable light. I was with the major at the time. He made no observations about the fire, and I supposed the house was set on fire by the rear guard, in obedience to Major Behlendorff's order. I saw no other house burned on that road.

I have the honor to be, adjutant, your obedient servant,

A. W. HILL,
Lieutenant Company M, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry Vols.

Lieut. S. MONTE CAMBERN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

JULY 30, 1864.—Reoccupation of Brownsville, Tex., by the Confederate Forces.

Report of Capt. James H. Fry, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS EXPEDITIONARY FORCES,
Fort Brown, August 4, 1864.

By direction of the colonel commanding I have the honor to report that upon his arrival at this place on the 30th ultimo he found Major

Cave in command of a party of citizens in quiet possession of the town of Brownsville.

The scouting party mentioned in Colonel Ford's last communication as having been sent below has returned. Captain Robinson, of Giddings' battalion, who was in charge of party, came up with the enemy's rear about fifteen miles below Brownsville, and after a vigorous attack succeeded in driving it back upon the main body, killing 2 of the enemy and capturing 2 prisoners.

You will find inclosed documents, marked A, which are copies of original orders picked up in the office lately occupied by General Herron.*

Pickets and scouting parties are kept well to the front, and every means is used to watch and harass the retiring enemy.

Colonel Ford has been sick for several days, and he is not sufficiently recovered for active duty. He desires me to say that he will make you a full report of operations so soon as his strength will admit of it.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. FRY,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Capt. W. G. TOBIN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Columbus.

JULY 30–AUGUST 1, 1864.—Scout in Phelps and Maries Counties, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Charles Adamson, Second Wisconsin Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY A, SECOND WISCONSIN CAVALRY,
Rolla, Mo., August 1, 1864.

In accordance with orders received from Col. A. Sigel, commanding Post of Rolla, I started July 30 with a scout of thirty men from the Second Wisconsin Cavalry. I divided my command into three parts, one taking the Vienna road, another the Lane's Prairie road, myself the Dillon road; scouted the by-roads and country thoroughly for several miles. Heard no reports of disturbance by guerrillas. Command rejoined and camped for the night at Dillon. July 31, divided my men as before; started at daylight, one party taking country between Vienna and Lane's Prairie roads; another the country immediately east; myself taking the Borbeus Bottoms, still farther east. We traveled mostly on by-roads and in the brush. Heard of guerrillas being on the Vienna road and on Spring Creek three days before. Camped for the night on the outskirts of the prairie. Arrested one man on suspicion. August 1, started at daylight; divided my command as before, one party taking the Vienna road, another the Spring Creek, and myself the country near the Gasconade River. Heard the same reports as before stated. Command rejoined at Dyer's farm, five miles from Rolla, and reported in to my command at 3 p. m., and delivered my prisoner to provost-marshal.

I remain, respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES ADAMSON,
Lieutenant Company A, Commanding Scout

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Post of Rolla.

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* Omitted as unimportant.

JULY 31, 1864.—Affair at Orange Grove, near Donaldsonville, La.

Report of Maj. S. Pierre Remington, Eleventh New York Cavalry.

OPPOSITE DONALDSONVILLE, *July 31, 1864.*
(Received 7 a. m.)

The guerrillas attacked the picket station at Orange Grove again last night between 1 and 2 a. m. and were repulsed without loss on either side.

S. P. REMINGTON,
Major, Commanding Eleventh New York Cavalry.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 1, 1864.—Skirmishes near Independence, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 2.—Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

WARRENSBURG, *August 2, 1864.*

Colonel Ford reports that Sergeant Coy, of his command, in charge of a scout from Independence, ran upon two camps of guerrillas in swamps, one of twenty-five, one of forty; killed 1 and wounded 2. Our loss none.

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS.

No. 2.

Report of Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry.

INDEPENDENCE, MO., *August 1, 1864.*

I sent two scouts out to-day, one west under Lieutenant Parsons, and Sergeant Coy, with his pet lambs, south. Coy ran on two camps, one of twenty-five and one of forty; killed 1, wounded 2; our loss, 1. Enemy scattered every way; we hear of them in all directions from here. Scout leaves Pleasant Hill to-night; leave here to-morrow morning before daylight.

J. H. FORD,
Colonel Second Colorado Cavalry.

Captain STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 1, 1864.—Scout to Baxter Springs, Kans., with skirmish.

Report of Col. John D. Allen, Seventh Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. SEVENTH PROV. REGT. ENROLLED MO. MILITIA,
Mount Vernon, Mo., August 1, 1864.

ADJUTANT: In pursuance of orders from these headquarters Captain Sutherland, together with Captains Roberts and Ritchey, with eighty men, made a scout in the direction of Baxter Springs. In about ten miles of the springs they came upon Captains Taylor and Marchbanks, with about thirty men. After a few shots they completely routed the enemy, killing some 5 or 6 and wounding several others. After pursuing them some ten or twelve miles south, making no farther discovery, they returned without any loss on our part.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN D. ALLEN,
Col., Comdg. Seventh Prov. Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

P. S.—Old One-Eyed Davis, of Greene County, was among the killed.

Lieut. W. B. ALLEN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Springfield, Mo.

AUGUST 1–3, 1864.—Scout on the Independence Road to Gunter's Mills, Mo.

Report of Capt. Ezra W. Kingsbury, Second Colorado Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY I,
Pleasant Hill, Mo., August 4, 1864.

SIR: In pursuance of orders dated August 1, 1864, headquarters battalion, Pleasant Hill, Mo., I have the honor to report that I left this station at 2 a. m. with a detachment of seventy men, from Companies F, G, I, K, and L, arriving at Gunter's at 12.30 p. m.; found the guerrillas in small squads east of the Independence road; ascertained that Todd and seven men had ordered breakfast at Hackett's, but did not remain to eat it; scouted the brush thoroughly in that vicinity; found fresh trails in every direction; they scattered as soon as pursued. Scouted the country east of the Independence road for seven hours; could not find the enemy. At 4 p. m. struck west; crossed the Blue at the Raytown crossing; found no trail; recrossed the Blue; went southwest up the Blue; scouted the timber south and west of Gunter's Mills, south of Gunter's. At 6.30 p. m. sent twenty men on foot into the brush in front of Gunter's. They remained in that vicinity until 9 p. m.; could find no signs of the enemy; returned to this station at 1 o'clock on the 3d instant.

E. W. KINGSBURY,
Captain Company I, Second Colorado Cavalry.

Maj. J. NELSON SMITH.

AUGUST 1–5, 1864.—Scout on the Smoky Hill Fork, Kans.

Report of Capt. Henry Booth, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY L, ELEVENTH KANSAS VOL. CAVALRY,
Salina, Kans., August 5, 1864.

SIR: In accordance with Special Field Orders, No. 6, dated headquarters Department of Kansas, at Fort Larned, July 31, 1864, extract III, I proceeded with my battalion, consisting of a detachment of cavalry from Company H, Seventh Iowa, Second Lieutenant Ellsworth in command; a detachment from Company L, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, Second Lieut. William Booth in command; a detachment from the Fourteenth Kansas State Militia, and a detachment from the Fifteenth Kansas State Militia, numbering in all ninety-two men, in a northerly direction. We camped at night on Ash Creek, about nine miles from Fort Larned. August 1, we broke camp early and proceeded in a northerly direction toward the Smoky Hill. After marching about ten miles we reached Walnut Creek, upon which we camped. It being twenty-five miles from here to the Smoky Hill, I deemed it not prudent to proceed any farther this day, especially as our guides said there was no water on the entire route. While encamped upon Walnut scouts were sent up and down the creek a distance of ten or fifteen miles. No Indians were seen, but indications that a large body had been here were apparent, but nothing recent. August 2, started this morning about 6 o'clock, throwing out flankers on each side to discover if possible any Indians that might be prowling around, but none were discovered on the entire march. We crossed the Smoky Hill about nine miles above the mouth of Big Creek. We stopped on Smoky Hill to graze and examine the river. No signs were discovered that indicated the presence of Indians. Learning from our guide that Big Creek was a great resort for Indians, I determined to proceed there, a distance of nine miles, to camp for the night. On approaching the creek scouts were sent forward to discover if Indians were present. Here again we found the remains of a camp of a large body of Indians; we judged from 400 to 600. They had apparently left in a hurry, as some of their pack-saddles, the remains of old tents, some hatchets, &c., were left scattered around the camp. They had evidently had a lot of stock, as the grass in the vicinity was cropped very short. I think from appearances that this camp had been left but a few days before our arrival. Possibly it might have been deserted while we were at Smoky Hill Crossing, from which it is a distance about sixty miles. This body of Indians had gone in a northerly direction. Having rations for only three days I deemed it not prudent to follow this trail. We camped on Big Creek, three miles above its mouth. August 3, broke camp about 6 o'clock and proceeded down the north bank of Smoky Hill toward the crossing. After leaving this creek we came into large herds of buffalo, which had tramped the country so much that it was impossible to tell a buffalo trail from an Indian trail. We camped to-night on the Smoky Hill, about sixteen miles from the crossing. No sign of Indians here. The buffalo had fed the grass so close that nothing was left for our horses. August 4, started this morning at daylight, as our horses were fasting (the last of our corn was fed last night). After marching five or six miles we found good grass and stopped to graze our animals. We reached Smoky Hill Crossing about 12 m. Here I received Special Field Orders, No. 7, dated headquarters Department of Kansas, Cow Creek Station, August 3, 1864, extract III. In accordance with said order

I left Lieutenant Ellsworth at this station with his detachment and proceeded with the balance toward Salina, which place we reached August 5, 1864, at 6 p. m.

I think from present indications the Indians are upon the Saline, Solomon, and Republican Rivers, as the buffalo are plenty upon these streams, and they depend entirely upon them for a living. Undoubtedly they are encamped upon some one of these streams.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY BOOTH,
Captain Company L, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS.

AUGUST 1–5, 1864.—Operations in Eastern Arkansas, with skirmish (1st) at Lamb's Plantation, near Helena.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Napoleon B. Buford, U. S. Army, commanding District of Eastern Arkansas.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Napoleon B. Buford, U. S. Army, commanding District of Eastern Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN ARKANSAS,
Helena, Ark., August 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. E. R. S. CANBY,
Commanding Division of West Mississippi:

SIR: Inclosed I send you a copy of my report of this date to General Steele. I have evidence that the enemy murdered in cold blood three wounded colored soldiers who were left on the battle-field on the 26th ultimo, and that yesterday they murdered two which they found at the plantations unarmed. What steps shall be taken? I still have Lieutenant Casteel and five other bushwhackers in prison whose cases I reported to you in person when you were here. I have in all forty-seven prisoners of war. If permitted a cavalry force I shall retaliate the barbarities and cause restitution to the lessees as far as practicable. I have been unwell for some time and have been granted a leave of absence by General Steele, but will not leave while there is an enemy near us unless entirely prostrated by sickness.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

N. B. BUFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN ARKANSAS,
Helena, Ark., August 1, 1864.

SIR: This morning at 5 a. m. the enemy under Colonel Dobbin were at Allen J. Polk's place; about 800 mounted men. At 8 they attacked the lessees at the Lamb place, capturing all the stock and negroes, old

and young, and the white employés. From there they went to J. B. Pillow's place, doing the same; crossing at Sandy Ford and following down all the leased plantations a distance of ten miles, capturing, burning, destroying, and robbing of money and effects. They passed out at Mrs. Higgins' place, going west. I had a cavalry force of 100 men, who left here at 8 a. m. in pursuit of a party of the plunderers as far as Allen J. Polk's, where they met a larger reserve of the enemy than my force, which closed in behind the plundering party and moved west. My force returned to watch the movements of the other parties going into the plantations. I moved out with my two infantry regiments, the Sixth Minnesota and the Thirty-fifth Missouri, which on account of sickness only mustered 400 men fit for marching, and with my colored (light) battery of four pieces and with the balance of the cavalry. The marauders, all mounted, were four times as numerous as my cavalry force and could not be overtaken. I have reason to think the whole force of the enemy mounted was three regiments, Dobbin's and two of Shelby's, commanded by Colonel Gordon and Colonel ———. They did not attack either of my two forts on the plantations, but have taken off the people and movables from two-thirds of the places. Colonel Bacon reports an aggregate for duty to-day of only 255 cavalry. I have distinctly seen that we should have a raid, and that I could not prevent it with so small a mounted force. I have received my leave of absence, but shall not avail myself of it while the enemy are in force near me. Between the White and Mississippi Rivers there is at this time a force of 6,000 men. My monthly report will exhibit to you my force, but two regiments are 100-days' men, many of them boys from sixteen to eighteen, and incapable of standing a march in this climate. The cavalry will lose 147 men by expiration of enlistment in a few days. I have been hoping that the force at Devall's Bluff would co-operate with me and clean out the enemy between Clarendon and this place.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

N. B. BUFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Arkansas.

No. 2.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS, &c.,
August 9, 1864.

In my last dispatch to you I was blockading White River and had expeditions operating in the direction of Helena, Memphis, and the railroad. Of these various movements I wish to inform you, so that you will understand everything in regard to affairs here. Colonels Dobbin and Gordon, immediately after their fight of July 28, made a forced march upon the Federal plantations near Helena and harried them with a fury greater than a hurricane. They captured 200 mules, 300 negroes, quantities of goods and clothing, and killed 75 mongrel soldiers, negroes, and Yankee schoolmasters, imported to teach the young ideas how to shoot.

Colonel McCray moved upon the railroad and damaged it considerably, but stirred up a complete hornet's nest. From Devall's Bluff to

Little Rock the road was swarming with large bodies of infantry and cavalry, and McCray was forced back as rapidly as he came. Two days later Colonel Coleman, with 500 men, struck the railroad, again tore up the track, burnt some ties, killed 25 Federals and captured 75 more, and fell back, fighting heavily. The next day Colonel Jackman, with 500 more men, made another dash at the coveted prize and again tore up a portion of the track; but he, too, had to fall back on McCray, who had taken post at a convenient distance to succor his detachments. Jackman killed 23, wounded 6, and captured 17.

Colonel Erwin, who was sent to the plantation above Memphis, has been very successful, and "Widow and Yankee maid long shall lament his raid."

I had not been on White River one hour before two gun-boats passed down. My battery was not in position and I could not open fire on them. For a day and night I lay upon the river, but whether they knew of my approach or not I cannot tell; but so it was—nothing passed up or down. I intended to wait on them a week or more, but my trusty scouts, whom nothing escapes, brought word that 3,000 Federals had gone by boats to Des Arc, and were coming higher to gain my rear. I marched that night for Augusta, and found before reaching there that they had gone up to Gregory's Landing—or at least a portion of them—and were likely to get between me and my reserve ordnance. I pushed on rapidly two days and nights, got above the Federals, and marched down without stopping to give them battle. They retreated hastily, but this expedition raised the blockade of White River, for I could not wait there with a heavy force in my rear and my newly-recruited and unarmed men unprotected wholly. Three thousand Federals are menacing me from the direction of Searcy, but I can whip that number if they will come to me. My stay here now will be short, not only on account of the heavy forces concentrating against me, but on account of the destitution of the country and the large number of ineffective men now concentrated. To save the recruits I have gained, to arm them, drill them, clothe them, and feed them, it is necessary that they be brought immediately to the army; so I shall take steps very soon to bring them through, unless I receive such orders from district headquarters as shall change my determination before leaving.

News from Missouri still continues glorious. If General Price, at the head of 5,000 cavalry, could penetrate the State he could light such a fire of opposition and enthusiasm that 50,000 loyal Missourians would spring to arms. There never was such an opportunity to make a successful raid. News from all points is bright with the tidings of victory and success. Hood whipped Sherman badly at Atlanta, and Colonel Mulligan, General Price's old opponent at Lexington, was killed in the Valley of Virginia, where General Early whipped Hunter, Crook, and Averell. There is not a day but some of my scouting parties meet and fight the Federals, and I can safely put down their loss since my occupation of this country at 10 per day. General Steele has been considerably re-enforced by General Canby, one portion of Banks' army going to him and the other to Grant. The lieutenant who brings this communication will explain to you my true intentions.

Very respectfully,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 1–28, 1864.—Operations in Southwest Missouri, with skirmishes at Diamond Grove Prairie (1st), at Rutledge (4th), near Enterprise and on Buffalo Creek (7th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.—Maj. Milton Burch, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 3.—Col. Joseph J. Gravely, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI,
Springfield, Mo., August 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith for the information of the general commanding official copy of report of Maj. Milton Burch, Eighth Regiment Cavalry Missouri State Militia, commanding Neosho, Mo., of a scout made by him with 175 men of the Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia and Seventh Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia into McDonald County, Mo., on the 7th instant. Also copy of his report of a scout made by Lieutenant Hunter, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry into the same section on the 5th instant with a detachment of the Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry. Six of the enlisted men missing from Lieutenant Hunter's command have come into camp at Neosho.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of the Missouri.

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the District Southwest Missouri, commanded by Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn.**

August 2.—Captain Ruark, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, killed Lieutenant Goode, of the rebel army, in the vicinity of Diamond Grove Prairie, near Carthage, Mo.

August 4.—Lieutenant Hunter, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, in command of sixty men, same regiment, on a scout in the direction of McDonald County, Mo., encountered the enemy 300 strong near Rutledge; had a sharp skirmish, in which he lost 3 men killed and 1 man wounded; the enemy's loss, 3 killed and several wounded.

August 7.—Major Burch, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, in command of 175 men, marched from Neosho; came in contact with the enemy near Enterprise; killed 1 of their pickets; were unable to bring the enemy into action. The rebel force, commanded by Major Piercey composed of portions of Pickler's and Stand Watie's commands.

August 10.—Colonel Gravely, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, with 100 men, left Springfield, Mo., to operate against the enemy on the western border of the district, but the enemy had retreated southward.

* From monthly return.

August 28.—Lieut. S. A. M. George, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, was killed by guerrillas at Osage Springs, Ark.

During the month the district has been very little disturbed by roving bands, but the enemy has been operating on the southern and western borders of the district, keeping our forces on the alert. The Forty-sixth Missouri Infantry is being organized.

No. 2.

Reports of Maj. Milton Burch, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

NEOSHO, MO., *August 5, 1864.*

SIR: For the information of the general commanding I have the honor of reporting to you the operations of a scout sent out from this post on the evening of the 4th instant.

From information I received from sources in which I placed but little reliance I learned there was a rebel force, numbers not known, encamped on Cowskin River, in the neighborhood of Rutledge. I made application to Captain Lindsay, commanding at Granby, for all the effective force he could spare. I also made application to Captain Ritchey for all the available force he could spare. I received a communication from Lieutenant Wear, of Captain Ritchey's company, that the captain was absent, and they were expecting the mustering officer, and consequently could not furnish any men. I received thirty men from Granby from Companies L and M, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia. I had thirty men detailed from Companies H and L, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and ordered Lieutenant Hunter, of Company H, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, with instructions to proceed in the direction of Rutledge, McDonald County, Mo., to ascertain the facts of the enemy being in that portion of the country. I ordered him to proceed to Rutledge and proceed cautiously to ascertain the whereabouts of the force reported, and if he found a rebel force as large as reported to proceed with caution and reconnoiter their position, and as near as possible their number. He reached a point near Rutledge, nearer than the place reported. He found the enemy's pickets and drove them toward their camp, which he found evacuated; he then started slowly on their trail with William Haycock as guide. They had not proceeded but a short distance, and the enemy attacked his rear, when the action commenced with the rear, and the enemy then opened on both of his flanks, and he then commenced falling back, and a running fight commenced, which was kept up for four miles, when the enemy fell back, and he then proceeded to fall back to this post, with the loss of 3 killed and 9 missing, 1 man wounded severely; but I think the missing will most of them come in. The loss of the enemy as far as known was 3 killed; the number of wounded not known. Their number, as far as my information reaches, is 250 or 300, Pickler, with probably Buck Brown's men, and their leader, Rector Johnson, formerly a citizen of this place. Since writing this I have received your communication to Col. John D. Allen ordering me to make a scout in the direction the scout herein reported has made, and complied with the instruction in your communication to Col. John D. Allen, dated August 4, 1864. I will call out all the available force belonging to the three stations and start back to see them again on the 7th instant, as according to instructions just received from your headquarters. A compliance of Special Orders, No. 206, for inspection of

horse equipments in possession of the troops at this place, will delay me one day and the horses need one day's rest. I have also the honor of informing you regarding the death of the notorious guerrilla chief, Lieutenant Goode. He was killed on the 2d instant by Capt. Ozias Ruark, Company L, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia. I started my forage train out on the 1st instant with twenty mounted men, under command of Lieutenant Hunter, Company H, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and twenty men on foot, under command of Capt. Ozias Ruark, Company L, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, on the Diamond Grove Prairie after forage in Goode's favorite range. When the train was loaded it proceeded with the twenty mounted men, Lieutenant Hunter in command, for this post, leaving the infantry concealed in the brush unknown to any person. They then maneuvered around in the vicinity of a spring known as a favorite resort of Goode and his band and concealed themselves. They had not remained long in ambush before Goode with two others came along; but they mistrusted danger at hand and one remarked, "There is somebody in the thicket;" but the word was hardly spoken till the sharp report of a revolver was heard and Goode rolled from his horse dead. The ball penetrated the left side of the upper lip and ranging upward. You will find herein inclosed the papers found on the person of Lieutenant Goode, with the list of the desperadoes under his command, and all other papers found on his person. The individuals whose names you will find on the list are citizens of this country and whose families are yet here.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MILTON BURCH,

Major, Comdg. Battalion Eighth Cav. Missouri State Militia.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DIST. OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI,

Springfield, Mo.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

J. R. Goode, Richard Hall, Calaway Johnson, J. W. Scaggs, L. H. Scaggs, T. H. Hawkins, T. V. Parnell, E. M. Martin, James Ramsey, W. F. Ray, John Harmon, Taylor Buskirk, Hiram Mayeld, Monroe Hewit.

[Indorsement.]

This paper was taken from Lieut. J. R. Goode, and contains a list of his company, most of whom live in the southern part of Jasper and northern part of Newton Counties.

OZIAS RUARK,

Captain Company L, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 23. HEADQUARTERS PRICE'S DIVISION, *Camp Bragg, January 28, 1864.*

I. Leaves of absence are granted to the following-named officers for the length of time set opposite their names, at the expiration of which they will return to duty with their command and report their arrival to this office: Lieut. J. R. Goode, Company H, Eleventh Missouri Regiment, thirty days.

By command of Brigadier-General Drayton:

L. A. MACLEAN,

Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Lieut. J. R. GOODE.

(Through Colonel Burns, commanding brigade.)

[Indorsements.]

Relieved from duty January 28, 1864.

JAMES PHILLIPS,
Major, Commanding.

Pass the bearer.
By order of Brigadier-General Cabell.

JOHN KING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH MISSOURI,
Camp Bragg, January 21, 1864.

Pass Lieut. J. R. Goode to Camden and back against the evening of January 22, 1864.

JAS. PHILLIPS,
Major, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Approved.

W. M. MOORE,
Major, Commanding Brigade.

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NEOSHO, MO., *August 9, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor of reporting, for the information of the general commanding, of a scout taken down in McDonald County, Mo., in search of the force that engaged Lieutenant Hunter, Company H, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, on the 5th instant.

I started on the 7th instant with all the available force in my reach—a portion of Captain Ritchey's company from Newtonia, a portion of Captain Ray's company from Newtonia, a portion of the command from Granby, and about thirty men from Carthage, Jasper County, Mo., and all the available force stationed at this post, making in all about 175 men. We left this post about 7 o'clock morning of the 7th instant and proceeded in the direction of Enterprise, McDonald County, Mo. After marching eight miles in that direction I received intimation of the enemy having moved his camp eight miles from the place where Lieutenant Hunter found him, having moved in a northern direction and nearer this post. We arrived at Enterprise about 1 p. m., and our advance drove in the enemy's pickets, killing 2 and pursuing the remainder of pickets and stragglers, about twenty in number, into their camp, and then fell back, reporting what they had discovered. I then moved up my men, concealed from the enemy, and then proceeded with a few men to reconnoiter his position, which I found to be strong and immediately at the mouth of Patterson's Creek. I then ordered Capt. John R. Kelso, with a few men, to proceed in the direction of the enemy's camp and try and draw him out, which he did not succeed in doing, although he skirmished with the enemy for nearly two hours, but could not induce him to leave his position in the woods.

While I with Captain Kelso was reconnoitering my horse was shot from under me by one of the enemy's sharpshooters. I then called off Captain Kelso, after ascertaining that the enemy would not leave his position. I then sent Captain Kelso, with Companies H and L, Eighth

Cavalry Missouri State Militia, to penetrate to the enemy's left, while a portion of the cavalry moved on his right unobserved, the remainder being held as reserve and holding horses. The infantry moved cautiously down the bed of a dry stream and reached the enemy's camp, and found they had evacuated their camp and fell back farther in the brush, which was almost impassable. Then throwing out ten men from Company L, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, as advance guard, with instructions to move slowly and cautiously, we then started on the enemy's trail, which led through a heavy timbered bottom in the direction of Buffalo Creek. We had not proceeded more than one mile before the advance discovered an ambuscade of the enemy, but the thicket in which the enemy lay concealed was so dense that the advance did not discover them till they opened on them. I immediately dismounted my men and deployed my force as skirmishers and moved cautiously forward in hopes of finding the whole force of the enemy in that vicinity, but after reconnoitering I ascertained that he had moved on slowly and cautiously on the trail till the advance reached Buffalo Creek. They moved cautiously and slowly and saw no enemy till they had rode into the stream to water their horses, when the enemy opened a very heavy fire on the advance guard, wounding four men severely, one of whom died immediately, and disabling four horses. Having no ambulance with me, we constructed litters and slowly retraced our steps after reconnoitering the position the enemy had occupied, and found him gone again. It was then near sundown, and our horses being greatly fatigued, and so was the men, as the scarcity of water rendered it almost insupportable, I could not ascertain the actual force of the enemy. From the best information I could gather from the number of fires, from the number of beeves killed, &c., I will say that there cannot be less than 225 or 300, but there may be more. As the country is an everlasting jungle of brush and weeds, I was not able to ascertain his numbers, as he did not seem willing to venture an engagement.

The officers and men under my command behaved nobly, obeying every order issued with a promptness which deserves the highest respect. I reached Neosho early in the morning of the 8th instant with my wounded men, and they soon received that attention from the hands of Doctor Wills which every wounded soldier requires. They are doing well and I hope for their recovery, that they may mete out punishment to all rebels and traitors in arms.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MILTON BURCH,

Major, Comdg. Battalion Eighth Cav. Missouri State Militia.

P. S.—I have to inform you that the enemy is commanded by a Major Piercey, of late date. It is Pickler's command, with a portion of Stand Watie's, and a portion of notorious bushwhackers with Rusk's company. I think they will stay there, as I do not think I have force sufficient to drive them, owing to the duty required for foraging and a guard to guard the haymakers, as in the country they occupy it will, in my judgment, require a larger force to drive them than I have at my command. If I had 300 more men I could drive or annihilate him, as it will require that additional number to effect his overthrow in his forest fastness.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MILTON BURCH,

Major, Comdg. Battalion Eighth Cav. Missouri State Militia.

Lieut. W. D. HUBBARD,

Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Southwest Missouri, Springfield, Mo.

No. 3.

Report of Col. Joseph J. Gravely, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *August 18, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that having complied with Special Orders, No. 213, headquarters District of Southwest Missouri, I have returned to this post and make the following report:

I assumed command of the different detachments of troops ordered by you to Neosho on the morning of the 13th instant and marched to Cowskin Creek. The advance guard saw six men in the evening and killed 1 of them. On the morning of the 14th Captain Kelso killed Lieutenant Baxter, a noted bushwhacker, whom we learned from the ladies at the house at which he was killed had brought dispatches from General Stand Watie to the companies in that vicinity to join Stand Watie near Fort Smith. On the 14th I marched near Maysville, Ark., but did not discover any enemy, but learned from reliable sources that the forces which had been in the vicinity of Cowskin Prairie had gone south, and that there was no rebel force left in that section except a few bushwhackers, who hide in the bluff and caves when any Federal soldiers are near. Having become satisfied from the trails of the rebels and rebel horses that the information received to the effect that Captains Rusk, Roberts, and Robinson, rebel officers, who attacked Major Burch about the 6th [7th] instant, had left for Stand Watie near Fort Smith, and that there was no probability of overtaking them, I returned to Neosho and ordered the different detachments of troops to return to their respective posts. On our return to Neosho the advance guard severely wounded 2 bushwhackers. They returned the fire and slightly wounded 1 man of the Sixth Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia.

I have the honor, general, to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH J. GRAVELY,
Colonel Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

[Brig. Gen. JOHN B. SANBORN.]

AUGUST 2, 1864.—Reconnaissance from Berwick to Pattersonville, La.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

No. 2.—Acting Master Levi S. Fickett, U. S. Navy.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

THIBODEAUX, *August 2, 1864.*

Colonel Jones, Ninety-third U. S. Colored Infantry, with his regiment and some cavalry, made a reconnaissance from Berwick to-day up the Teche as far as Pattersonville. They took 1 prisoner, 3 horses, 30 head of cattle, some molasses, and ammunition. They learned that the enemy had crossed the lake toward the La Fourche, but do not state when or where.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Acting Master Levi S. Fickett, U. S. Navy.

U. S. STEAMER GLIDE,
Berwick Bay, August 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report, viz:

At 10 a. m. on the 2d instant I heard firing in the direction of Pattersonville, and, in obedience to your orders of same date, got under way and proceeded to that place. When about half way up saw a small squad of the Ninety-third U. S. Colored Regiment. The officers commanding them told me that our troops had met the enemy in Pattersonville, routed them, and captured two prisoners. At 11.45 a. m. exchanged signals with the U. S. steamer Carrabasset, which was lying at the bank in the lower part of the town. I stopped my boat and went on board of her; saw two ladies there, whom Captain Leonard informed me were sent on board by Colonel Jones, of the Ninety-third. I asked him if he had seen Major-General Canby's order, prohibiting certain persons from visiting inside of our lines. He said he had not, but Colonel Jones told him that he (Jones) would be responsible for them if he (Captain Leonard) would bring them down. I saw about two-thirds of the Ninety-third Regiment (and a part of the cavalry regiment who were with them) near the Carrabasset, on the bank. A few of the Ninety-third and a few of the cavalry had proceeded toward Brashear with a drove of about fifty or sixty head of cattle, which they had taken from citizens in Pattersonville; and the remainder of both regiments were ransacking houses and back yards for such plunder as they could carry. By Captain Leonard's orders (after taking on board a colored family whom I brought to Brashear) I went up as far as the mouth of the Teche; saw about twenty rebel cavalry, which I shelled out of a small piece of woods, and they retreated up the banks of the river. I then steered toward Brashear. On my return I passed several small squads of Colonel Jones' regiment at various distances from the main body. There was no officer with them, and they were pillaging in nearly every house on their way. I considered the troops very badly managed, and the officers did not appear to exercise any command over them. I saw several men of the Ninety-third with articles of clothing in their possession. At 1.30 p. m. I passed the U. S. steamer Carrabasset lying at the bank, putting bedding, furniture, &c., on shore again, which had been taken on board by the soldiers without Captain Leonard's knowledge. The soldiers burned three or four buildings on their return, one large dwelling-house and one mill. I could not say whether the others were mills or houses. When about three or four miles from the bay, I saw six or seven men of the Ninety-third Regiment on the opposite side of the bayou. I went in to the bank, told them to come on board, and I would take them to Brashear. They did not come, but crossed over below me. They were from one to two miles in the rear. I afterward took them on board, nearly beat out from the heavy load of plunder which they had about them, and a hot sun overhead. I then kept on down the river, and at 3 p. m. came to anchor off Brashear City.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. S. FICKETT,
Acting Master, Commanding.

Acting Vol. Lieut. S. B. WASHBURNE,
Commanding Naval Forces at Berwick Bay.

AUGUST 2–8, 1864.—Operations near Holden, Mo., with skirmish (8th) on Norris Creek.

Report of Capt. Melville U. Foster, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HOLDEN, MO., *August 11, 1864.*

I have the honor to report the marches, scouts, &c., of troops at this station to this date:

August 4, Corporal McCoy and twenty men of both companies were sent to repair telegraph wire; learned that break was immediately east of Pleasant Hill, and that troops from that station were repairing it; returned; traveled twenty miles. August 5, Captain Baker, with thirty men, Company C, went on scout on Big Creek and Crawford's Fork; found small squad of rebels; chased them, killed 1, captured 1 horse and equipments; traveled thirty miles. Same day with fifteen men went myself foraging around on Blackwater; learned upon what I deemed good authority that Dick Yeager was then lying wounded northwest of Chapel Hill. Went and informed Major Kelly, commanding that station, and proceeded into the Sni Hills to look for Yeager. Could not find him; returned next day; traveled forty miles. August 6, Corporal Skidmore, with twenty men, Company G, went to Lost Creek; returned; traveled twenty miles. August 8, Lieutenant Combs, with forage train, run into a squad of bushwhackers in Norris Creek; had skirmish; had 1 horse slightly wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. U. FOSTER,
Captain, Commanding.

Lieut. J. N. PENNOCK,
Adjt. Seventh Regt. Cav. Mo. State Militia, Warrensburg, Mo.

AUGUST 3, 1864.—Skirmish near Fayette, Mo.

Report of Maj. Reeves Leonard, Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACH. NINTH CAV. MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Fayette, Mo., August 4, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Yesterday morning after a slight skirmish I routed a band of guerrillas near Fayette, and pursued them until dusk, a distance of fifteen miles, capturing horses, arms, clothing, &c. Our forces consisted of detachment of the First Iowa Cavalry and Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. LEONARD,
Major Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Capt. GEORGE A. HOLLOWAY,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of North Missouri, Saint Joseph, Mo.

AUGUST 3–NOVEMBER 4, 1864.—Scouts from Fort Sumner, N. Mex., with skirmish (August 26) at Sacramento Mountains.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Capt. Henry B. Bristol, Fifth U. S. Infantry.
No. 2.—Capt. Emil Fritz, First California Cavalry.
No. 3.—Capt. Samuel A. Gorham, First California Cavalry.
No. 4.—Capt. Francis McCabe, First New Mexico Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Capt. Henry B. Bristol, Fifth U. S. Infantry.

FORT SUMNER, N. MEX., *August 19, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor herewith to inclose reports of Indian scouts made by Captains Fritz and Gorham, California Volunteers. I also state for the information of the general commanding that Captain McCabe is now in pursuit of the Indians with about sixty men. From what I can learn he will overtake and punish the savages for their depredations lately committed in the vicinty of Hatch's Ranch.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. BRISTOL,
Captain, Fifth Infantry, Commanding.

Capt. BEN. C. CUTLER, U. S. Volunteers,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. Hdqrs., Santa Fé, N. Mex.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Emil Fritz, First California Cavalry.

FORT SUMNER, N. MEX., *August 19, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the information of the commanding officer:

I left here on the 3d instant, according to verbal instructions from Capt. H. B. Bristol, commanding Fort Sumner, N. Mex., to intercept an Apache trail in the direction of the Capitan Mountains. On the fourth day I arrived at Fort Stanton late in the evening without seeing any Indian signs. I remained in Stanton the following day, and at dusk an express arrived with the news that the Indians had driven off the mules belonging to Mr. Parker's train. I left Fort Stanton the same night by order of the commanding officer, Major Chacon (please find a copy of the order inclosed), to scout through the White Mountains in order to intercept the Indian trail. I returned on the fourth day, having scouted through the White Mountains, and crossing all the trails leading to the Sacramento and Guadalupe Mountains without finding any Indian sign. On my return to Stanton I was ordered to send part of my men to the relief of Mr. Parker's train, and remain with the rest at the post to guard the Government stock there until the return of my men with the train in distress. As soon as they returned I took the route for this post, where I arrived on the morning of the 19th instant without seeing anything worthy of notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EMIL FRITZ,
Captain, First Cavalry California Volunteers.

Lieut. M. MULLINS,
Fifth U. S. Infantry, Post Adjutant.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. Samuel A. Gorham, First California Cavalry.

FORT SUMNER, N. MEX., *August 4, 1864.*

In accordance with an order received from Captain Bristol, Fifth U.S. Infantry, commanding Fort Sumner, N. Mex., and having agreeably to said order reported to Col. Christopher Carson, First New Mexico Cavalry, for instructions, I proceeded about midnight of the 3d instant from this post in the direction of Fort Union, N. Mex., to look after certain Apache Indians who had a few days previous been committing depredations and running off stock from the ranches in the vicinity of ———. My command consisted of one commissioned officer (Lieut. B. F. Fox, First California Cavalry) and thirty enlisted men of Company G, First California Cavalry (my own company). I was furnished with one Mexican guide and one Indian guide. After traveling about twelve miles on the main road which leads to Fort Union I bore off to the right, and a little after daylight crossed the Alamo Gordo, a small stream, at a distance of about twenty-four miles from Fort Sumner. Just before crossing the stream the Mexican guide left us with the understanding that he would return. After crossing the stream I proceeded with my command and the Indian guide in a northerly direction about twenty-four miles, and within four miles of Whitmore's Ranch; then changed direction and traveled west about twelve miles and crossed the Rio Pecos, followed the river up, and camped at Giddings' Ranch, where we remained two hours for the purpose of resting and feeding our animals and getting something to eat ourselves. We arrived at Giddings' Ranch a little after 11 o'clock, having traveled over sixty miles. A little after 1 p. m. left Giddings' Ranch and recrossed the river on the road back to Fort Sumner. I proceeded on my return as far as the lower main crossing of the Alamo Gordo and about twenty-five miles from the ranch. We camped about 9 p. m. Distance traveled this day about eighty-five miles. The Mexican guide failed to return during the day in accordance with the understanding.

AUGUST 5, 1864.

Broke camp about 4 a. m. and proceeded up the stream in an easterly direction about ten miles and crossed the Indian trail. Having been informed on yesterday that the stock captured by the Apaches had all been retaken from them, and that the Indians had twenty-four hours the start of me, and no other stock with them except their own animals, which they were riding, I concluded it would not be expedient to pursue them, as pursuit would be useless. I therefore returned to the fort, where I arrived about 12 m., not having seen an Indian during the scout.

S. A. GORHAM,
Captain, First Cavalry California Vols., Comdg. Company G.

[Lieut. M. MULLINS,
Fifth U. S. Infantry, Post Adjutant.]

No. 4.

Reports of Capt. Francis McCabe, First New Mexico Cavalry.

CAMP NEAR DOG CAÑON, *August 27, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in obedience to verbal orders received from Capt. H. B. Bristol, commanding officer at Fort

Stanton, N. Mex., I left Sumner on the 6th instant, with forty-three enlisted men of my company (L), First New Mexico Cavalry, and six Navajo Indians, as spies and guides, to pursue and chastise a war party of Apaches who had lately committed various murders and robberies in the neighborhood of Chaperito. On reporting to Colonel Carson, acting Indian superintendent at Fort Sumner, I was instructed by him to march to Fort Stanton, and after obtaining provisions and other supplies at that post to proceed to find the Indian trail, and follow it to the village. The colonel likewise advised me to go to Tularosa, and if possible to employ competent guides and a small company of citizens at that place, and from there proceed to Dog Cañon, where he supposed the Indians would be found with their plunder. I started accordingly, and on the 11th instant I reached Fort Stanton, where I was advised that the same body of Indians had attacked Mr. Parker's train near Gallinas Spring and run off all his mules. I could find no guide here, but on the morning of the 12th, as I was ready to start, Lieut. H. W. Gilbert, First Cavalry New Mexico Volunteers, and eight men, who had been sent to pursue the Indians, returned with the information that he had followed their trail until he overtook them at a point on the Sierra Oscura, and that he judged their village was but a short distance from that point. Lieutenant Gilbert stated that he returned for re-enforcements to attack the rancheria. I accordingly started that afternoon with Lieutenant Gilbert and his party of eight men, attached to mine. After marching all night I halted at a point thirty-six miles north of the Sierra Blanca Mountains. At 12 o'clock on the 13th I left camp and marched until sundown, when I halted at a rain-water hole about eight miles east of the Mal Pais. Here I was informed by one of my Navajo guides that he knew where the Apache village lay, and that by marching all next day he could reach it. I accordingly marched at daylight and crossed the Mal Pais, which being a belt of broken and disrupted rocks with no known trail, the passage was exceedingly difficult and many of my horses and mules were badly cut by the sharp projecting rocks. I reached the Ojo del Llano, a spring in the desert between the Sierra Blanca and Sierra Oscura ranges, at 2 p. m., and having watered and unsaddled my animals I sent forward the Indian to reconnoiter the Apache village. He returned at dark, stating that it was five or six leagues off. I then marched next day to the point where Lieutenant Gilbert reported having seen the Apaches, and after passing through many difficult cañons I reached it at 3 p. m. The Indian guide pronounced the trail to be eight or ten days old. I started same evening and followed it until dark, when I was obliged to halt for the night. At daylight the next morning my Navajo guide informed me that the trail passed over a spur of the Oscura Mountains to the village. We marched to this place and reached it at noon, but found that it had not been occupied by Indians recently. I returned same day and encamped at a hole of water in the rocks, and at daylight next morning resumed the search for the trail, which was found running in a westerly direction along the base of the Sierra Oscura. I marched all that day and all night, passing a deep cañon in the mountain twenty miles long which opens on the Jornada del Muerte. The night march was conducted in a severe thunder-storm which lasted several hours.

Having halted at daylight, I rested until 12 m. and marched again on the trail, which took a direction south, entering the mountain again. At 6 p. m. I halted in a fine valley where grass was abundant but no

water for the animals, and next day resumed the march at daylight, and at 12 m. found a little water in holes for the men, but not enough for the animals. At 5 p. m. found water and good grass at the Ojo Alamo, in a deep cañon in the mountains. Here I was joined by Sanchez, the post guide of Fort Stanton, who informed me that he had mistaken my trail for Major Chacon's, who was one day's march in rear. I started next morning, taking the guides with me, whom I sent about 500 yards ahead with five men to trail. By this time my Navajo guides stated that the mountains were unknown to them, but that they believed the Indians were Coyotero Apaches. I found water this day twice on the trail before 12 o'clock, and after a severe march of forty-five miles I encamped without water within ten miles of a point where the trail entered the desert in the San Andres Mountains. My guide was totally ignorant of the country, and a few of my men proved better trailers than the guide. On the morning of the 22d I started for the point where the cañon opened on the desert, sending the guide and trailers in advance in search of water. No water was found until we reached the salt lake, called Salina, toward which my guide led me, assuring me the water was potable. On arriving there I found to my mortification that it was salt, and had to saddle up and march toward San Nicolas Mountain. I found a hole of water near that point, and found the mule and sheep trail running across the desert toward Dog Cañon. After a short rest I marched across the desert and next morning arrived at the Water-Tanks, having marched sixty miles in twenty-four hours. Half my command and horses were still on the desert when I reached the tanks, and I immediately sent back water to their relief, and at noon marched to a stream called Rio Alamo. I found here that most of my horses were broken down (three were abandoned by my order) and several of my men sick. I rested that day and sent the guide to the Dog Cañon to look for the trail. He returned next morning and informed me that the trail led into the cañon, and that the Indians were there. I immediately formed my men, mounted and dismounted, and marched to the cañon, determined to enter it and attack the Indians. I found on entering the mouth that the Indians had entered it to water their animals, and that they left it and started for Sacramento River four days before. I detailed Lieutenant Gilbert with twenty men to follow the trail, instructing him to use caution and diligence in the pursuit, and marched my broken-down men and horses to a camp near Tularosa to recruit. On reaching Tularosa I called for guides and a party to take a new direction to the lagunas, where I supposed the Indian village to be located. Mr. Parker reached me yesterday, informing me that Major Chacon had arrived, and I started again with sixteen of my men and fourteen citizens behind to follow the Indians. On my way to this place I met a messenger, informing me that Lieutenant Gilbert had a fight with the Apaches yesterday near Rio Milagro, and that the lieutenant was killed at the first discharge. All the horses were killed and wounded by the Apaches, and the guide and 1 man mortally and 3 privates of my company severely wounded. Corporal Gallegos, of Company L, behaved very well and brought off the wounded. The fourteen Apaches whom we were pursuing had been joined by a large number of others, who I am informed by the Navajo guide are Coyoteros. I have sent out water and wagons to relieve and bring in my wounded, and I will march in half an hour with the remainder of my men and about twenty citizens to attack the Apaches. Major Chacon and Lieutenant Cook will march to-night also.

Although repulsed, the men of Lieutenant Gilbert's party behaved nobly, and he fell gallantly himself at the head of his men. I deeply regret his fall and will avenge it if possible. The Indians are said to be about seventy in number. It is closing dark, and I cannot be more explicit for want of time.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. McCABE,
Captain, First New Mexico Cavalry, Comdg. Detachment.

Capt. B. C. CUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.

FORT SUMNER, N. MEX., *November 4, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the general commanding, a report of my operations in the field since August 6, 1864, at which date I was detailed to pursue a band of Apache Indians that had murdered several Mexicans in the vicinity of Chaperito, and driven off several thousand sheep and a few horses and burros, and had a day or two afterward defeated a small party of Navajoes near Alamo Gordo, who, under their brave chief, Delgadito, made a gallant but unsuccessful attempt to recover the plundered stock. My instructions from Col. C. Carson, First Cavalry New Mexico Volunteers, acting superintendent of Indians at the Navajo Reservation, were to proceed to Fort Stanton, N. Mex., and obtain all necessary supplies, and thence to Tularosa to hire a competent guide and a few citizens as spies, &c., and from thence to Dog Cañon, at which place I would most likely find the Apaches. I left this post on the 6th of August, and reached Fort Stanton on the 11th, about noon. The remainder of the day was spent in shoeing the horses and mules of my command. At Fort Stanton I learned that the band of Apaches I was in pursuit of had encountered a train belonging to Charles Parker, near Gallinas Mountain, and after a brief fight, in which the wagon-master and one of his hands were wounded, they succeeded in driving off more than fifty of his mules, and that Lieut. H. W. Gilbert, First Cavalry New Mexico Volunteers, had been sent with a small party in pursuit of them.

On the morning of the 12th, as I was ready to start to Tularosa, Lieutenant Gilbert arrived with information that he had suddenly overtaken the Indians at a point in the Oscura Mountains, and that the Apache rancheria was near that point, but that his party was not large enough to attack them; he had returned for re-enforcements. As I had the fullest confidence in Colonel Carson's judgment and knowledge of Indian habits I was anxious to carry out his instructions; but as the lieutenant's information was positive I felt that my proper course under the circumstances was to proceed with him at once to where he had seen the Apaches. Before leaving the post I hired a guide named Flores to accompany me, but by the time I was ready to start he was drunk and refused to go. I confined him in the guard-house and started without a guide. Had this man remained sober and faithful to his engagement I have no doubt, from his knowledge of the Apache habits and of the mountains, but I would have overtaken the band before they could reach their hiding places in the Sacramento Mountains; but although he acted in a manner grossly culpable and deserved severe punishment he was released by the commanding officer in a few days afterward and employed by him to follow my trail too late to be of any service.

On leaving Fort Stanton my entire command, including Lieutenant Gilbert's party, numbered fifty-four men mounted. I had also six Navajo warriors on foot to be used as spies, trailers, &c. I set out that afternoon and marched all night, and encamped at sunrise next morning at a small stream north of the Sierra Blanca. Having rested at this camp until 1 p. m. I resumed the march, and following an old Indian path, I arrived at a small water-hole at sunset within a few miles of that belt of volcanic rocks, known as the Mal Pais. As the passage of these rocks is impracticable at night I rested until daylight, and next morning marched toward and across it, my animals being much injured by the sharp and rugged rocks while passing, and I reached the Ojo del Llano (spring of the hill), a fine spring in the center of a dry and barren desert. From this point I marched at daylight next day in a northerly direction to the point where Lieutenant Gilbert saw the Apaches. I reached the cañon at 12 m., and found on examination that a large number of sheep and several mules had been grazing there some six or eight days before, although a heavy rain had partially obliterated the tracks. I marched same evening to a cañon still farther north, and crossing the mountain ridge next day I visited an old Apache rancheria, which had not been inhabited for several months. I returned same day to the east side of the mountain and found the trail made by the Apaches running in a southwest direction along the base of the Sierra Oscura. I pursued said trail until sunset, and found that it entered a large cañon about twenty miles in extent, which opened on the Jornada del Muerte. I marched through this cañon same night without a halt in a very severe storm of rain, which injured men and animals, and I encamped at daylight in an opening of the cañon near the jornada, where grass and rainwater were abundant. Here I sent a party of good trailers ahead to ascertain the direction of the trail, who returned at 11 a. m. and informed me that after entering the plain it soon diverged to the left and entered another opening in the mountain. I packed up at 12 m. and followed it over hill and valley until sunset, when I encamped at a point where grass was abundant, but no water. A very severe rainstorm set in, which lasted until midnight, and rendered trailing still more difficult, but I marched, notwithstanding, forty-five miles before sunset, passing three places where the Apaches had rested and built fires. At the last resting-place a ramrod and three butcher knives were found. I encamped at sundown at the Alamo Spring, about fifty miles from Fort McRae, as I was informed by Sanchez, a Mexican guide from Fort Stanton, who had overtaken the command at this camp. Sanchez had been sent forward by Major Chacon (who was following up my trail) as a spy, and mistaking my trail for that of the major's command, he had traveled on without rest until he overtook me. I attached him to my command, and next morning set out on the trail, which took a direction west, crossing a very rough and rocky country in the center of the Sierra Andres.

During this day's march no water could be found, and at sunset I reached a cañon about ten miles from the sandy desert lying between the Sierra Andres and Sacramento Mountains. Owing to the imperfect knowledge of my guide I had much trouble in following the trail this day, and I was obliged to encamp without water at dark, although men and animals greatly needed it. The next morning I started at daylight, sending flankers right and left to find water, and I followed the cañon to its mouth, but no water could be found. The guide Sanchez conducted me to the Salinas under the impression that the water was

good, but on my arrival I found it as salty as the water of the Atlantic. He then informed me that water could be found at a spring in San Nicolas Mountain, eighteen miles west, and I started to march to that spring, but in an hour afterward one of my men (Jesus Chavez) who had been following the trail, hailed me and informed me that he had discovered a hole of rainwater, to which I marched at once and halted, turning the animals loose to water and graze. Owing to the long march without water, my men and animals needed at least twenty-four hours rest, but I determined to push on to San Nicolas Spring, hoping to find the Apaches near that neighborhood. I left camp at 5 p. m., and traveling west a few miles I came to where the Indians had driven the mules, sheep, &c., across the Las Cruces road and into the desert toward Sacramento Mountains. I pushed on without a moment's delay into the desert until darkness concealed the trail, and still traveling all night and crossing the long belt of white sand which runs longitudinally through the desert I arrived at daylight next morning at White Water Tanks, near the Franklin road, with a little more than half of my command. I found on my arrival that the water in the tanks was not sufficient for my entire command, animals included, but I had a small party detailed at once to march back with water to the relief of their comrades whose horses had given out on the desert. In this manner I collected all my command before 10 a. m., except a corporal and three men who had deserted during the night. The crime of these men is, if possible, aggravated by the fact that their comrades were endeavoring to overtake and engage the Apaches at the time of their desertion. On ascertaining that they had deserted I sent my acting first sergeant alone to Las Cruces with a note to the commanding officer, who had three of them arrested on the third day afterward. I left this water at 12 m., same day, and reached Alamo River at 6 p. m., where I encamped and rested until noon next day, at which time I moved forward to Dog Cañon, leaving a corporal and some sick men and horses behind with instructions to go to a grazing camp near Tularosa, N. Mex., and await my return. The unusual severity of the march for the last forty-eight hours, added to the toil the men had experienced for several days before, had its effect on several, and many were absolutely barefooted, having worn out their shoes while climbing the rocky passes of the Sierra Oscura. I reached Dog Cañon at 10 o'clock next day and determined to enter it, but on reaching the mouth I found that the Apaches had merely watered their stolen flocks and mule herd in the stream and had again taken a direction toward Sacramento River. On examining a temporary camp, where the Mexican guide thought they had slept four nights before, I found thirteen beds, and judged that the party numbered fourteen, as one must have been watching the stock. This number corresponded exactly with that of the party which had driven off the sheep from the neighborhood of Chaperito and had subsequently taken Parker's mules. Most of my animals being in no condition to pursue the trail farther, and as the Mexican guide judged that the Apaches were retreating toward Guadalupe Mountains, I had little hopes of overtaking them, but I determined to do all that I could under the circumstances before giving up the pursuit. I accordingly selected twenty of the best horses, including that of the guide and Lieutenant Gilbert, whom I sent forward with instructions to follow the trail for four days farther and rejoin me either in the mountains or at Tularosa. With the remainder of my command I marched to Tularosa, and having obtained a supply of horseshoes and nails I had my horses shod on the day of my arrival, and procured several pairs of

shoes for my men, who were barefooted. Mr. Parker arrived at Tularosa same day and informed me that Major Chacon and Lieutenant Cook had reached Rio Alamo.

Lieutenant Cook did not accompany Mr. Parker to Tularosa, as I have since seen stated in Major Chacon's journal, published in a Santa Fé paper. I left Tularosa with Mr. C. Parker and Mr. Gregory and a number of citizens, intending to take a trail leading to the Sacramento River through the Alamo Cañon, hoping to surprise the Apaches in that direction, but on the road within a few miles of Major Chacon's camp I was met by a messenger, who brought me a note from Lieutenant Cook informing me that Lieutenant Gilbert's party had been surprised by Apaches on Sacramento Mountains, and that the lieutenant was killed and his party repulsed and driven back. On receiving this information I galloped to Major Chacon's camp, and proposed to make a night march up the Alamo Cañon toward the scene of the fight, in hopes to overtake the Apaches before they would retreat farther into the mountains. This proposition was not favorably received by the major, who directed that the commands should move together next morning in the same direction. We started on the next morning at 9 o'clock and entered Cañon Alamo, up which we proceeded for about eight miles, and thence ascended a very steep mountain for several miles, halting about 3 p. m. at a small stream on the southern side of it. We left this camp at sunset same day, and marching until 12 o'clock at night encamped amongst a forest of pines and oak, without fires. At daybreak we moved forward and halted for breakfast after a march of ten or twelve miles, and after two hours' delay again set forward, reaching Almagre Spring, at the foot of Sacramento Mountains (the scene of the recent action), at 5 p. m. Here we halted and encamped. I advised Lieutenant Cook to furnish a detail for a funeral escort, the remainder coming from my command, and we marched to the top of the mountain, where Lieutenant Gilbert's remains were found, neither scalped nor mutilated. A grave was dug and his body was interred with appropriate military honors. I erected a small slab of soft stone, on which his initials were cut, at the head of his grave. It faces the trail subsequently made by my party in the advance to Rio Sacramento. From all I can learn respecting the action in which Lieutenant Gilbert fell, his death was instantaneous. He had dismounted his cavalry to lead their horses up the long and steep slope of the mountain, and when nearly arrived at the top he fell, pierced by the bullet of an Indian in ambush. His men received a volley of arrows and musketry simultaneously, and were obliged to fall back 100 yards to the shelter of a small grove of cedars. In doing so they had to abandon all their horses but two, and could not recover them afterward. I am glad to be able to report that the wounded (5 in number) were brought off the ground. Corporal Ortega (then private, Company L) killed the leader of the Apaches, and Private Sandoval, same company, although mortally wounded, fired several times, and kept his horse in his grasp, the mountain side being too steep to operate mounted. This action took place on the 26th of August, and the party reached the camp on Rio Alamo August 27, 1864, very much fatigued and exhausted. The guide Sanchez and Private Sandoval died before the party reached the Alamo. The Navajo warrior who accompanied the party fought gallantly, and his bold and dauntless bearing in the fight was a theme of conversation for some time afterward. His shirt was perforated with two bullets.

Having returned to camp, after the burial of Lieutenant Gilbert, Major Chacon concluded that it was impracticable to pursue the

Apaches any farther, and gave orders to march back to Fort Stanton. He left camp next day before I did, and as some citizens on the hills above commenced a discharge of fire-arms I sent a messenger to recall him. He returned and joined me at the camp, and we proceeded to Rio Sacramento, where we found a quantity of dried mutton and a young colt that had been abandoned by the Apaches. We also found four sheep alive and saw several (that had died from fatigue) in the stream dead. At this place Major Chacon halted, and I sent forward Captain Gregory (of the citizen party) with six men to push forward and look for fresh signs. Before Mr. Gregory's return the major had moved on a few miles, and having been told by his guide (Flores) that the Apaches were at least four days' march ahead, he ordered the command to march back to Tularosa. At this time the men, and particularly the animals, of the command were much fatigued, and had we proceeded three days more over a country like that in the neighborhood of Alamo Cañon not an animal could have been brought back alive. We reached Tularosa on the 31st of August, and on the 1st of October Major Chacon and Lieutenant Cook set out for Fort Stanton. I remained behind, hoping to recruit my animals and enter the mountains again, hoping to surprise the Indians, whom I supposed to be less watchful since they saw the command leave the mountains. I left camp on the 3d of October and made a three days' scout up the Rio Señora de la Luz, but as my horses and mules were mostly barefooted I had to return to camp. I left Tularosa on the 8th of October and arrived at Fort Stanton on the 11th, where I remained until the 19th, recruiting my command, resting my animals, and awaiting orders. On the same day at noon Lieut. F. Cook reported to me with thirty picked men for duty in the Sacramento Mountains. Asst. Surg. L. W. Hayes, Fifth Infantry California Volunteers, was also assigned for duty with my command, and written instructions were received from department headquarters directing that every diligence should be used to find the Apaches, &c. I left Fort Stanton on the 20th with Lieutenant Cook and my own company and arrived at Tularosa on the 23d. Here I established a temporary depot, and leaving Assistant Surgeon Hayes and a few sick behind I marched up the Señora de la Luz to enter the Sacramento in that direction. I reached the head of the Luz on the second day, and proceeding southeast encamped at a valley opening on Rio Penasco on the fourth day. At this place the grass was excellent. I started next day and marched down the stream, passing where the water disappeared in its bed, and encamped at a spring near Rio Felix at 11 p. m. No fresh Indian sign was discovered during this days' march. From this place the command marched to Las Tuses, an old Apache encampment, but on arriving there it was discovered that the waters of the spring had dried up. No sign of Indians could be found in that neighborhood. I pushed forward in a southwest direction until sundown, when I entered the plain east of Sacramento Mountains, following the direction of Sacramento River. At sunset I reached a point where the country was broken by deep fissures and ravines. Here I encamped, and as no water could be found I ordered a sergeant and ten men forward in search of it and as spies. The party returned next morning and reported that a trail some four or five weeks old had been seen running in the direction of Guadalupe Mountains. My command was now twenty-four hours without water, and I marched to a point on Rio Penasco, which I reached at 2 p. m. same day; men and animals much fatigued. I started next morning, and moving up the stream until 4

p. m. I reached a point near its source, where I encamped. I may here remark that on halting at the end of each day's march I invariably sent out a party of dismounted cavalry with instructions to examine the neighborhood in every direction. In this way I could have been informed of the presence of lurking Indians, had any such been in the vicinity of camp. I marched next morning (direction west), and at 2 p. m. reached a point overlooking the Franklin and Fort Stanton road, and descended about ten miles to a cienega near Cañon Alamo.

The country traversed during the last ten days was well watered and timbered, except that east of Sacramento Mountains and the region between Cañon Luz and Rio Penasco is a succession of hill and dale, the former covered with magnificent timber, such as pine, oak, ash, &c. A beautiful variety of aspen grew in every valley. The country is well adapted to agriculture and grazing purposes, and produces timber more than sufficient to supply the territory. Wild fruits, such as cherries, plums, and raspberries, were abundant. A species of the red rose bloomed on every hill, and wild flowers blossomed in every direction. Elk and black-tailed deer are numerous in the mountains, and herds of antelope were seen east of Sacramento. Wild turkeys were seen by hundreds at every camp, and many were killed by the men when they were permitted to shoot. In some instances panthers were seen, and one specimen of the American lion was seen, but could not be killed. On this scout I came to the conclusion that the Apaches had left this region and moved to Guadalupe Mountains; but although I desired very much to follow them, I was unable to do so (if I had not been ordered back) from the fact that I received only ten days' provisions from Fort Stanton instead of a month's supply, which I required. I reached Tularosa on the 3d of October and sent Lieutenant Cook to Stanton for provisions. He returned on the 11th with only ten days' provisions. I marched again into the Sacramento Mountains on the 12th of October, penetrating all the valleys between the head of Rio Luz and Sacramento River, following old trails. The face of the country is similar to that described on my last scout and game found still more numerous. Water is abundant in every valley, the numerous springs forming in places considerable streams. A very severe snow-storm, commencing on the 18th, and drifting furiously on the 19th of October, covered all the trails and compelled me to descend to a plateau several hundred feet lower, about fourteen miles below, where the weather was clear and warm. I started next day, and continuing to descend I reached camp at Tularosa October 21, 1864. On reaching camp I received for the first [time] the orders of the department commander directing me to return to my proper post.

The Apaches whom I pursued so long were the same party that had driven off the sheep from Chaperito and Mr. Parker's mules from Gallinas Spring. They would have been overtaken and punished before reaching the mountains had I been fortunate enough to have a good guide. The Navajoes who were with me made excellent trailers, but were unacquainted with the country west of Sierra Oscura. The Apaches are now hidden in Guadalupe Mountains, or in Las Limpias, where they will doubtless remain until necessity compels them to make another raid. A mounted company stationed at Tularosa could be of service in cutting off these savages in that event, as they must pass through one of the gaps or cañons of the Sacramento Range opening on the desert, and could be overtaken and punished by cavalry mounted on fresh horses; whereas cavalry weary with a pursuit of many days, would not be able to hope for much success.

The enlisted men of my command cannot be too highly praised for the patient endurance with which they sustained the privations, toil, and hardships of a campaign of eighty-eight days, in which time they have marched 1,300 miles across barren deserts and over steep and rocky mountains, many of them on foot and nearly barefooted and bleeding from contact with the flinty rocks and the cactus and thorns.

I am under obligations to First Lieut. Franklin Cook, Fifth U. S. Infantry, and Asst. Surg. L. W. Hayes, for their zealous co-operation during a portion of the campaign.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS McCABE,
Captain, First Cavalry New Mexico Volunteers.

Capt. ROBERT LUSBY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 4–15, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Brazos Santiago, Tex., with skirmish (9th) at Point Isabel.

Report of Col. Henry M. Day, Ninety-first Illinois Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Brazos Santiago, Tex., August 15, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of affairs at this post from August 4, the date of my last report, up to the present time:

Nothing worthy of note occurred until the 9th of August save occasional skirmishing between our cavalry pickets and those of the enemy. On the 9th a fatigue party, consisting of seventy-five men of the Eighty-first Corps d'Afrique Engineers, was sent over to Point Isabel, distant about five miles, for the purpose of procuring lumber. At about 12 p. m. they were attacked by a force of about 150 cavalry. The fatigue party had been sent armed as a precaution in case of an attack, and some sharp skirmishing ensued, in which 2 of the enemy were killed and several wounded, without any loss to our side. Captain Jordan, Ninety-first Illinois, who was in command, seeing that he was outnumbered and fearing for the safety of the steamer Hale, which had transported the fatigue party to the Point and was lying at the wharf, withdrew his men to the boat and returned to Brazos. The above facts having been reported, also that there were several small boats at the point which, though in poor condition, could be fitted up and would fall into the hands of the enemy, a detachment of the Ninety-first Illinois and Nineteenth Iowa was sent over for the purpose of routing the rebels and destroying the boats. The detachment was under command of Capt. William W. Shepherd, Ninety-first Illinois, and landed without difficulty, the enemy firing a number of shots at so long a distance as to be of no effect. Upon the advance of Captain Shepherd the enemy fled, and as there were no means of pursuit the boats were destroyed and detachment returned.

I have received information from Mr. Pierce, consul at Matamoras, to the following effect: The entire force of the enemy, consisting of about 900 cavalry, have left Brownsville, with the exception of about eighty men who are guarding the place. They are under the immediate command of Ford and are scattered in small camps over the country between this place and Brownsville. They have no artillery

and their horses are in poor condition. They are busy laying a plot by which to capture some of the colored troops at this post in order to be revenged for the loss inflicted upon them at Point Isabel. I cannot see how any such plot can be successful, as the colored troops are no more or hardly as much exposed as the white. There is a force of the enemy which has not yet been in Brownsville; it consists of about 400 cavalry and is stationed above Laredo on the river. This, together with the force under Ford, mentioned above, comprises the entire force of the enemy, as near as I can learn, in this part of the country. Mr. Pierce is of the opinion that Ford rather fears than designs an attack, as his men have a wholesome fear of artillery. I take pleasure in reporting to you that there is a marked improvement in the discipline and general conduct of the First Texas Cavalry, concerning which I advised you in my last report. No more desertions have occurred since then, and I am in hopes that all the disorderly and unreliable men of the command were those who have left.

The health of the troops under my command is fair, although the want of fresh vegetables is felt in no small degree. Two-thirds of the men in hospital are afflicted with the scurvy.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. M. DAY,

Colonel, Commanding U. S. Forces, Brazos Santiago, Tex.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Gulf.

AUGUST 4–SEPTEMBER 15, 1864.—Scout from Fort Union, N. Mex.

Report of Capt. Nicholas S. Davis, First California Infantry.

SANTA FÉ, N. MEX., *October 30, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that in obedience to orders I left Fort Union August 4, 1864. On the 7th of that month at the breaks of Red River I met three Mexicans, who reported that on the 1st of August, while in camp at Lower Cimarron Springs, a party of Indians (Kiowas and Comanches), about seventy in number, came to the camp apparently friendly. They, after being in camp a short time, made a sudden attack, killing all the Americans with the train, five in number. They gave the Mexicans one yoke of oxen and wagon, telling them to go back to New Mexico, as they did not wish to kill them; but that they would kill every white man that came on the road. On the 10th of the same month near Lone Mountain met the trains of Messrs. Zuna and Armizo, who reported that on the 6th, while camped at the Arroyo de los Plumas (or hole in the rock), six miles west of upper crossing of Cimarron, a party of about thirty Indians run off 135 mules from their trains, none of which were recovered. At the same time a large party were seen on a ridge to the north who had a large amount of stock, which they were driving to the south. On arriving at the Lower Springs on the 18th found the remains of the five murdered men, scattered over the prairie. Had them gathered up and buried. On the 23d arrived at west end of Dry Route, and found in camp some seven trains, eighty-four wagons in all; also a company of the First Colorado Cavalry, Captain Hardy in command, who had arrived from Fort Larned about two hours before me. The wagon-masters reported that they arrived in camp at that place at 1 o'clock August 21. About one hour after sixty or seventy

Indians (Kiowas and Comanches) attacked the trains, driving off 240 head of oxen and killing a wagon-master by name of Blanchard. Their cattle were driven to the south toward the Canadian and its tributaries. Received information here that about ten days before the Indians had attacked a train belonging to George Bryant while camped near upper crossing, driving off nearly all the mules; also that nearly all the public animals from Fort Larned had been driven off. Saw at Walnut Creek the point where a train had been attacked in July, 10 men killed, 2 boys scalped alive, and they still survive. This occurred in full view of and about one mile distant from a military post, where a company of troops were stationed. I saw at Cow Creek where a train was attacked and 2 men killed. All these depredations were reported to me by men who were present as being committed by Kiowas and Comanches combined. On the night of September 15, while in camp on Arkansas River, an Indian boy about fifteen years of age came in and reported that he was a Ute, who had been taken prisoner by the Comanches and from whom he had escaped. Three nights before all the toe nails on his left foot had been torn off and a hole burned through his foot. This was evidently done for the purpose of preventing his escape. This boy was brought to Fort Union and returned to his tribe through Colonel Carson.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NICHOLAS S. DAVIS,
Captain, First Infantry California Volunteers.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. CARLETON,
Commanding Department of New Mexico.

AUGUST 5, 1864.—Skirmish near Remount Camp, Ark.

Report of Maj. Lyman G. Willcox, Third Michigan Cavalry.

REMOUNT CAMP, ARK., *August 5, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have to report that at about 5 o'clock this evening Captain Adamson, of my command, who was in charge of the herd guard of eighty men on duty on the prairie, was attacked by a band of five guerrillas dressed in Federal uniform. The captain, a corporal, and one private had ridden to the house of a Mr. Spinks and asked for a glass of water, when they were attacked by the guerrillas, who seemed to have been following them. Captain Adamson was severely wounded, the corporal was wounded in the arm, and the private soldier taken prisoner. The guerrillas immediately left in great haste, taking with them the horses and arms of Captain Adamson's party.

Your obedient servant,

L. G. WILLCOX,
Major, Commanding Detachment Third Michigan Cavalry.

[Capt. C. H. DYER.]

AUGUST 5, 1864.—Affair at Doyal's Plantation, La.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Thomas W. Sherman, U. S. Army, commanding Defenses of New Orleans.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

No. 3.—Col. Cyrus Hamlin, Eightieth U. S. Colored Troops.

No. 4.—Maj. S. Pierre Remington, Eleventh New York Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas W. Sherman, U. S. Army, commanding Defenses of New Orleans.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES OF NEW ORLEANS,
New Orleans, August 15, 1864.

SIR: I ordered some time ago through Colonel Hamlin, commanding District of Bonnet Carré, a detailed report of the affair at Doyal's plantation, wherein four companies of the Eleventh New York Cavalry were surrounded by a detachment of the enemy and summoned to surrender. All the information I have of the affair is a short telegram stating that Major Remington in cutting his way through the rebels lost some eighty men and his camp equipage, &c. I have been unofficially informed that the Eleventh New York Cavalry has been recently transferred to another command. I therefore inform you as above, hoping that this detailed report will be demanded for the interest of the service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. W. SHERMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Major DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Gulf.

No. 2.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

THIBODEAUX, *August 5, 1864.*

I have just received the following from Donaldsonville. I do not like to send troops over the Mississippi River without your directions:

Major Remington, of Eleventh New York Cavalry, with three squads of his command, were surrounded by the enemy at Doyal's plantation, six miles above here on the opposite side of the river, this morning. Colonel Scott, commanding the rebel forces, under flag of truce, demanded an unconditional surrender, giving five minutes to decide. Major Remington refused and cut his way through the enemy. He is now with his force directly opposite this point. I have the First Louisiana Infantry in readiness to send across if required. Have six guns in the fort I bring to bear across the river. Major Remington has a force of from 600 to 700 men. I know nothing of the enemy's force. The officer who came in with flag of truce stated that they had two brigades of cavalry and a battery. They have artillery, as they used it when our forces cut their way through. Major Remington is now making a thorough reconnaissance. Will telegraph as soon as they return.

W. O. FISKE,
Colonel, Commanding.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. O. MATTHEWS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

Captain MATTHEWS:

The general says you can authorize General Cameron to send the First Louisiana across there if he thinks the case requires it.

NEWHALL.

THIBODEAUX, *August 6, 1864—6 p. m.*
(Received New Orleans 7 p. m.)

I have just received the following from Colonel Fiske, at Donaldsonville:

Major Shaw, at Plaquemine, reports that his pickets were attacked this morning about 5 o'clock by a force of mounted infantry, supposed to be about 100 strong. The enemy's loss was 5 killed and wounded. Our loss 2 killed and 3 prisoners. The enemy retreated toward Indian Village. All quiet on the other side of the river. Colonel Scott immediately retired across the Amite after his attack yesterday morning. His object was to capture our force at Doyal's plantation; he had a brigade of cavalry and a battery; the pieces he used were 12-pounders. Major Remington's loss was 80 captured, with horses and equipments. They were mostly sick who were captured. All quiet at this post.

I am, truly, yours,

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding District.

Capt. O. MATTHEWS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Reports of Col. Cyrus Hamlin, Eightieth U. S. Colored Troops.

BONNET CARRÉ, *August 5, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

SIR: I have to report that I received a dispatch from Major Remington, Eleventh New York Cavalry, that he was attacked this morning by Colonel Scott, with his brigade of cavalry and one battery, and unconditional surrender demanded. He cut his way through Colonel Scott's cavalry, which was thrown out in a corn-field, completely encircling him. Loss small, except camp and garrison equipage, and sick men prisoners. Major Remington had his horse shot under him, and Captain Norris was shot through the shoulder. I am awaiting for a more complete report from Major Remington.

Respectfully,

CYRUS HAMLIN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Maj. G. B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BONNET CARRÉ, *August 6, 1864.*

I have the honor to report all quiet in my front. After attacking us yesterday Scott fell back on the road leading to Bayou Manchac. The Eleventh New York pursued them to Hampton's Ferry, where they crossed the Amite. The loss is about 80 men taken prisoners, who were not able to mount, being sick. Captain Norris and several men wounded. Scott's force was not over 600 men, with four pieces of artillery. I gave orders yesterday morning to Major Remington to send out a scout and to be vigilant, and patrols in roads in rear of the plantations. Communication with Baton Rouge was established soon after I reported to you yesterday.

CYRUS HAMLIN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Major DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 4.

Report of Maj. S. Pierre Remington, Eleventh New York Cavalry.

HDQRS. ELEVENTH NEW YORK CAVALRY (SCOTT'S 900),
Doyal's Plantation, La., August —, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have for the first time since the affair of the 5th instant the leisure to enable me to forward you a full report:

Col. John S. Scott, commanding rebel forces at Clinton, appeared in the back road of the plantation on which I am located about daylight on the morning of the 5th. Not supposing that he had to exceed 500 or 600 men, I immediately ordered my men to mount and prepared to attack him. I had 206 men for duty. While organizing the two squadrons, Colonel Scott marched his men through the corn-field and woods and completely surrounded my camp, and opened with two pieces of artillery not before discovered, and at once sent in a flag of truce with a note of which the following is a copy:

COMMANDING OFFICER FORCES ON DOYAL'S PLANTATION:

To avoid a useless effusion of blood, I hereby demand an unconditional surrender of the stockade and the forces under your command. I have a brigade of cavalry and a battery of artillery at my immediate disposal. Your refusal or compliance with this demand must be made within five minutes after reception.

Respectfully,

J. S. SCOTT,
Colonel, Commanding.

I of course replied that the command would not be surrendered; but in order to save the effective part of it, immediate action was necessary, for they had four pieces of artillery (three 12-pounders and one 20-pounder) in position. I informed the men that we must cut through their line and charged down the levee road toward the telegraph station. They opened from three guns with shot and shell, but as they had no time to get range their shot were not effective. They had evidently supposed we would attempt to defend the stockade, and their cavalry, which might have charged our flank, stood like posts, and the force in our immediate front fell back in confusion, keeping up an ineffective but heavy fire from carbines and shotguns. Our charge was impetuous and spirited, and while we had but 1 officer (Captain Norris) and 2 privates wounded the enemy took off two loads of wounded and buried four men between this and the Amite. They carried off all our sick men but one, and a larger number than I had at first supposed of well men. The horses and equipments of these men were also lost and three of the teams. I got together as soon as possible about 100 more men, and with gun-boat No. 27 came back so soon that they had no time to remove any considerable quantity of stores or camp equipage, nor nothin gyet discovered of consequence amongst regimental papers. Lieutenant Burgess, in charge of the advance of my men in pursuit, came up with them and wounded 4 of their rear guard, but they crossed successfully the Amite as they came. Nothing was taken from any plantation except this and Mr. Minor's, adjoining. From this about thirty mules were taken, and from Mr. Minor's eight horses. Colonel Scott in this affair crossed the Amite and marched directly for this camp, expecting to capture the detachment under my command, and evidently for no other object, and failing, went directly back. He had not less than 1,500 men with him and reserves posted at the Dutch Store and Civic's Ferry. Two-thirds of the well men taken were either slow fellows and always in the wrong place, or men who shirked the

charge, which it was supposed would be quite desperate. I annex list of prisoners and wounded and sketch* of the situation (made by Lieutenant Nicholetts) at the time we cut our way out.

In justice to him I take pleasure in stating that the conduct of Capt. John Norris was deserving of all commendation, as was also that of the officers and men who went through with me.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. REMINGTON,
Major, Commanding.

Lieut. C. C. HODSDON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Bonnet Carré.

List of prisoners and missing.

Capt. W. F. Raymond, Company A; First Lieut. J. R. Wood, Company L; Sergt. Maj. F. C. Davis; Hospital Steward Freeman; non-commissioned officers and privates—sick, 53; not sick, 37. Total enlisted, 92. Total of horses taken, 130.

About fifty of the horses taken were excellent animals. Twenty-five or thirty of them were sick and glandered horses, and the balance ponies, many of which had previously been taken from Doyal's men.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF WEST MISSISSIPPI,
New Orleans, September 3, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

So much of the report as relates to a surprise is not commended, but the regiment has subsequently acquitted itself with credit.

ED. R. S. CANBY,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH NEW YORK CAVALRY,
Doyal's Plantation, August 26, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In reference to the order requiring me to report the facts concerning my action at Doyal's plantation and the reasons of my being surrounded by the enemy without my knowledge, I have the honor to state:

The affair alluded to occurred on the morning of the 5th instant. On the 8th I forwarded full reports to the office of the chief of cavalry, Department of the Gulf, and a copy to Colonel Hamlin, then commanding the district, which reports were, I am informed, satisfactory to those officers. My camp has always been kept thoroughly picketed, and the approach of a body of cavalry was announced to me by my picket on the new river road in time to allow my men to saddle up and mount. This was done with the exception of the men unfit for duty by reason of sickness. The country back of my camp is thickly wooded, and the immediate surroundings are immense corn-fields. I could not discover that the enemy had artillery nor their exact strength, and intended to attack them in such a manner as to cover and protect my camp. By moving his men through the woods and corn-fields, Colonel Scott got his men into position, having a regiment on each of the three sides of my camp and his battery in position, about the same time that I got my men in line. His men were formed at a distance of from one-half to three-quarters of a mile from me, when I discovered that he

* Omitted as unimportant.

had artillery and that his force so greatly outnumbered mine. I immediately charged on the line commanded by Colonel Gober and went through. This was done without any hesitation on my part and was evidently not anticipated by the enemy, who opened a heavy but ineffective fire, their artillery alone throwing about thirty shells. They at once threw a column down a plantation road running parallel with and about eighty rods from the one on which I moved, which made it impossible for me to turn back after the charge, and left me no other resource except to get the regiment together as soon as possible and attack them. However, having failed substantially in his object, Colonel Scott started at once for the Amite, crossing Bayou Manchac, near Hampton's Ferry, and the Amite at Galveston Ferry. I had on the morning of the 5th 206 men for duty. Aside from my sick men those lost as prisoners were principally commissary and quartermaster sergeants, buglers, saddlers, daily duty men, headquarters clerks, blacksmiths, &c., men who are not accustomed to at once saddle up and mount when anything is reported by the pickets requiring the command to turn out. My camp is located about sixteen to eighteen miles from Galveston Ferry and has good open roads leading to it and to other points on the Amite. My force does not admit of my keeping patrols constantly on these roads, and the fact of Colonel Scott crossing and getting near my camp without my knowledge does not seem to me a very remarkable circumstance. He has attempted it twice before, but on each occasion I have had information from my patrols and scouting parties and taken means to prevent it. This time he crossed during the night and succeeded in getting here.

Respectfully,

S. P. REMINGTON,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. WILLIAM H. CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Baton Rouge.

AUGUST 6, 1864.—Skirmish at Plaquemine, La.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. William P. Benton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Baton Rouge.**

BATON ROUGE, *August 6, 1864.*

There is a lady at the picket-lines, the wife of a rebel captain, with whom she is not on very good terms. She reports that Scott is moving on this place with from 3,000 to 4,000 men; that he crossed the Comite River day before yesterday in two columns. I know her personally; her intelligence and means of information are undoubted. The only question in my mind is as to her loyalty and truthfulness. Shall I send her down to you? I will detain her at the pickets till your answer arrives. They have shown themselves on two roads in that direction this morning and fired on the cavalry vedettes on the Clay Cut road. The officer of the day, Maj. Penn Gaskell, with six men of the guards, drove them back, and a squadron of cavalry followed them seven miles, capturing one horse. I have no suggestions to make. I give the facts as I got them, for what they are worth. I however believe that Scott had intended to attack Highland stockade, and when he learned that I had withdrawn the garrison that he then moved on the stockade at Doyal's plantation. This latter place he

* See also Cameron to Matthews, 6 p. m., p. 215.

attacked yesterday morning, the particulars of which I suppose you are aware of. I sent the garrison and two pieces of artillery back this morning to reoccupy the stockade.

W. P. BENTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. OLIVER MATTHEWS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATON ROUGE, *August 6, 1864.*

The commanding officer at Plaquemine reports that his pickets were attacked this morning by about 100 mounted infantry. They drove in the pickets at first, and about fifty of them got into town; the pickets were re-enforced and drove them from street to street out of town. They then retreated toward the village, carrying their wounded in a wagon. Our loss is 3 killed and wounded, 4 taken prisoners; their loss is supposed to be the same. For the want of cavalry he was unable to pursue them. I would most respectfully request that a battalion of the Fourth Wisconsin, Major Craigue commanding, now stationed at Morganza, be ordered to report to me so as to enable me to re-enforce this post with sufficient cavalry. I desire this command more particularly, for the reason that Major Craigue is acquainted with every road and by-path in the district.

W. P. BENTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. O. MATTHEWS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

DEFENSES OF NEW ORLEANS,
August 7, 1864.

Respectfully referred to department headquarters.

The small detachment of cavalry now at Plaquemine is under orders to join the regiment at Morganza (about twenty-five or thirty men). Sufficient cavalry for picket and scouting purposes is needed there, but nothing more, unless it is required to engage a large force of the enemy outside the works, which would require a much larger force of other arms in proportion. Should the enemy attack Plaquemine in force its garrison can hold out long enough for large re-enforcements to arrive from Morganza, but until the enemy develops his real plans, I think the shifting of troops any more than absolutely necessary for current and routine service would be injudicious. I recommend that a company of cavalry be sent there to relieve the small detachment ordered to Morganza.

T. W. SHERMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

AUGUST 6–9, 1864.—Scout in Saline County, Mo., with skirmishes (7th) at Arrow Rock.

Report of Lieut. Col. Bazel F. Lazear, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACH. FIRST CAV. MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Marshall, Mo., August 10, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Since my report of the 5th instant I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that I

scouted the county in the direction of Miami, but learning that a force of 400 guerrillas were in Marshall the county was not thoroughly scouted. Upon the receipt of the above we marched to Marshall, arriving there the 6th; found that ten guerrillas had visited the place the 5th, burning the court-house and one other building, plundering some of the inhabitants, and shooting five negroes in town and four a short distance from town. If the citizens had remained at home this raid on Marshall would never have been made. 7th, marched to Arrow Rock, scouting the county as well as could be done without dividing the command too much, not knowing what force we would find. Had two skirmishes, one with a party of fifteen, the other twenty, killing 3 and wounding several, who made their escape in the brush. Killed 2 horses and captured 4, one of them wounded. Our casualties, none. One of the parties fired several rounds before scattering, but the other only fired two shots. 8th, scouted the county in the vicinity of Arrow Rock thoroughly, but found no guerrillas as they had scattered that morning; a party of twenty camped within eight miles of camp the night of the 7th on the premises of one Marshall Piper, who gave us no notice of the fact, and being a notorious rebel and under bond was shot. The guerrillas shot a negro man the 7th, just before we came upon them. 9th, returned to Marshall.

This is certainly the most rebellious county I have been in. I have arrested several women that I will send in in due time, and have arrested several of the worst rebels that I am holding as hostages for the lives of Union men. We have searched but very few houses, but what we have, nearly all have goods that are undoubtedly stolen. You can't pick up a letter about any of their houses but you will find treason in them. This county needs rough handling, and as the guerrillas have threatened what they will do I have warned and notified their friends that I would hold them responsible for the acts of the guerrillas, and will retaliate for any violence done the Union men either in person or property. The Union people are very much discouraged, but if I am allowed to carry out the policy I have started out on rebels will not be allowed to stay here if Union men can't. It is very hard to prove that men willingly feed guerrillas as they all deny it, but they all do so, and when they allow them to feed and camp upon their premises day after day and give no information, but deny that they know anything of them, it is as good evidence of their guilt as I want, and I shall act accordingly. I have endeavored in this report to give a picture of the situation of affairs in this county, but it has to be seen to be understood. From the best information I can get I do not believe there are 100 guerrillas in this county, and the removal of 100 families to the South would do more good to quiet this county than to hunt guerrillas one year and leave the families here. I have not learned the particulars of the burning of Frankfort, but will soon.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. LAZEAR,

Lieut. Col. First Cav., Mo. State Mil., Comdg. in the Field.

Captain STEGER,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Warrensburg, Mo.

AUGUST 6–16, 1864.—Expedition from Little Rock to Little Red River, Ark., with skirmishes at Hickory Plains and Bull Bayou (7th), at Hatch's Ferry (9th), near Augusta (10th), and near Searcy (13th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Arkansas.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Joseph R. West, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.

No. 3.—Maj. James F. Dwight, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

No. 4.—Itinerary of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Seventh Army Corps, commanded by Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry.

No. 5.—Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Arkansas.

LITTLE ROCK, *August 14, 1864.*

GENERAL: The command under Brigadier-General West encountered McCray near Searcy, beat them and pursued toward Jacksonport, where it is supposed Shelby was about crossing White River in order to go south. Scouts and deserters report that the rebels in my front are falling back across Saline River. The party sent to burn the depot at Princeton stampeded the guard, but the leader being wounded failed to burn the rebel supplies. This may be the cause of their withdrawing part of their force. Dobbin is reported still hovering about Helena. Shelby has supplied his conscripts with arms through smugglers in Memphis. From all accounts it is his intention now to rejoin Price as soon as possible. West will make every effort to catch him whichever way he goes. This is the third expedition I have fitted out against Shelby within a few weeks. The excuses given for not catching him are that they could not get supplies and were obliged to return. Brigadier-General Carr had Shelby in his grasp at one time, in the opinion of his officers.

The following-named troops have been ordered home during this month, some on account of expiration of time of service and others on furlough: Second Indiana Battery, 100; First Iowa Cavalry, 360; Sixty-first Illinois Infantry (veteran), 220; Sixty-second Illinois, 360; Third Minnesota (six companies), 200; Fifth Kansas Cavalry, 120. Time of service of First Indiana Cavalry will expire next week.

Very respectfully,

FREDK. STEELE,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. E. R. S. CANBY.

No. 2.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Joseph R. West, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY EXPEDITION,
Camp Three and a half miles west of White River,
Opposite Augusta, August 9, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that a small affair occurred between the advance of Colonel Geiger's command and Jackman's forces, at Hickory Plains, on the 7th instant. The enemy fell back, and

but little injury was done him, a few being killed, and as many made prisoners. Picket-firing commenced with Colonel Stuart's command at Stony Point the same day, but all of McCray's forces have been falling back constantly and keeping out of our reach. McCray himself left Searcy on the afternoon of the 7th instant. His force is reported at 2,000. Rebel authority reported that Shelby was at Augusta and proposed crossing at that point to unite with McCray on the Grand Glaize road and give us battle. To prevent this I moved to-day to this point, hoping to meet Shelby in the act of crossing the river, but was disappointed. Shelby, with a reported force of 2,000 men, left Augusta on Sunday, the 7th instant, taking the road to Jacksonport. McCray is making the best of his way to join him. I may not succeed in preventing their junction, but know that I am strong enough to whip them united. With the enemy (as Dobbin is reported gone up Crowley's Ridge), who have been annoying your communications, all on the other side of my force, I deem it my duty to pursue until they are "captured or dispersed." I shall accordingly continue my movements and march to-morrow for Grand Glaize. The command is doing well.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

J. R. WEST,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. E. A. CARR,
Commanding District of Little Rock.

P. S.—7.30 p. m.: In securing a ferry-boat this afternoon at a ferry about three miles above Augusta, a body of some 300 of the enemy discovered themselves. Captain Latimer, Third Michigan Cavalry, very adroitly secured the boat, and learned from a woman on the east side of White River that Shelby was encamped four miles above Augusta. I believe this to be so, and request that you will send immediately one or two good steam-boats to Augusta to enable me to cross the river. I shall keep operating around here until you do this, and propose to develop the enemy to-morrow. Please send me 45,000 pounds of oats. I inclose also a memorandum of ammunition, which is much wanted.*

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY EXPEDITION,
Searcy Landing, August 13, 1864.

GENERAL: On the 9th instant I closed the dispatch which I forwarded to you by means of the canoe, with this postscript.†

On the following day, Wednesday, the 10th, I pushed over a reconnoitering party at Augusta, which drove the enemy's pickets from the town northward. In the afternoon I crossed the Third Michigan Cavalry on the ferry-boat previously referred to, and a reconnaissance twelve miles north from Augusta discovered no enemy. The next day, the 11th, I crossed the Eighth Missouri by the ferry-boat at Hatch's Ferry, four miles above Augusta, but learning of the concentration of the enemy under Shelby at Village Creek, on the Jacksonport road, I deemed it unwise to have my force thus divided while in the immediate vicinity of the enemy, and the boats not arriving from below I could not transport the main body across the river in safety. I therefore recrossed to the west side of the river the Third Michigan and Eighth Missouri on the 12th, and returned to this point yesterday, the 12th.

* Omitted as unimportant.
† See next, *ante*.

Having in view the object it would be to Shelby to get out of this country with the force he has conscripted I am prepared to intercept him should he attempt to get southward from Batesville. I move this morning to a point fifteen miles up the Little Red in Searcy Valley, where I shall have better advantages in foraging animals and can await the information to be obtained by a scout I have sent in the direction of Jacksonport. If Shelby is quietly remaining in Jacksonport I can do him no damage, as the Big Black is an obstacle that I cannot overcome. In the event of his being there I shall employ the detachment in beating up the country for small parties of the enemy and then return to your lines. In order to move with greater facility I send the sick, the prisoners, and the supply train to Devall's Bluff this morning.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. WEST,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. E. A. CARR,
Commanding District of Little Rock.

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, Ark., October 14, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in compliance with orders from headquarters District of Little Rock, to "proceed with all the available cavalry of the district in pursuit of the enemy, reported to be on Little Red River, and pursue them until they are captured or dispersed," I left this post on the 6th of August last for the section of country indicated in your orders. The command was divided for convenience into two provisional brigades. These were commanded, respectively, by Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, and Col. James Stuart, Tenth Illinois Cavalry. The aggregate strength of my command was 3,094. Two sections of the Fifth Ohio Battery and two mountain howitzers comprised the artillery. Verbal instructions from the district commander left me at liberty to employ my force according to my best judgment in case the enemy fell back beyond the Little Red. The First Brigade, in moving from Devall's Bluff, to unite with the remainder of the command, drove a rebel force of some 300 men, reported to be Jackman's, out of Hickory Plains on the 7th of August, killing 4 and taking 7 prisoners, without loss on our side. Colonel Geiger joined me at Bull Bayou the same evening. The advance of the Second Brigade, the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Calkins commanding, exchanged shots with a picket of the enemy at Bull Bayou. The rebels were evidently falling back and merely watching our movements. Moved to Searcy the 8th of August. Reported by all the inhabitants that the enemy passed over the road traveled that day in great haste. At Searcy learned that McCray, who commanded the rebel force, was moving night and day to Jacksonport, to effect a junction with Shelby, who was reported to have returned from the direction of Helena. August 9, I marched to White River opposite to Augusta, with the intention of crossing at that point and moving upon Shelby at Jacksonport. Sent communication to district commander that evening requesting steam-boats should be sent up from Devall's Bluff to effect the crossing. August 10, sent 1,000 men of Second Brigade to Denmark, as a feint, that the main body would march to Jacksonport by the west side of White River. Destroyed a salt-work near Grand Glaize Creek, and took 8 prisoners. Crossed the Third Michi-

gan Cavalry at Augusta and occupied the town. August 11, moved the only flat-boat to be found—a miserable affair for crossing a force—to Hatch's Ferry, four miles above Augusta. Wishing to gain time, crossed the Eighth Missouri Cavalry by that means and swimming the horses. Heavy rains, the slow progress of crossing by the flat, and the certainty that artillery and wagons could not be crossed with the means at hand, induced me to guard against any attempted offensive movement by the enemy. Shelby's and McCray's forces united could bring 4,000 men against me, and I had to guard against their coming down either bank of White River and attacking my force, while engaged in crossing. Rumors to that effect reaching me the two regiments on the east bank were recrossed to the main command during the night. August 12, no steamers arriving from Devall's Bluff, abandoned the idea of co-operation from that quarter and returned to Searcy. August 13, sent all the sick (the rains were very heavy, and camps last few days in canebrakes) and train to Devall's Bluff. Sent a small reconnaissance toward Denmark. This party encountered the enemy ten miles from Searcy; re-enforced it with Third U. S. Cavalry, under Captain Howland, with orders to proceed to Fairview. This was done, the rebels losing 1 man and falling back. One man of Eighth Missouri Cavalry was wounded. Moved with main force eleven miles up the west bank of the Little Red, and encamped. Sent a detachment to Hilcher's Ferry and communicated with Captain Howland at Fairview. August 14, learned that there was no enemy, but a few stragglers, on the west side of White River. The command had now been in the field eight days; the only forage obtainable was unripe corn. The horses had been very scantily fed for months previously, and their condition, particularly that of the artillery animals, was not equal to a march exceeding twenty miles per day. It became apparent that it was useless to attempt to cross White River at Jacksonport. Shelby could successfully contest my crossing at that point or fall back faster than he could be followed. August 15, returned to Bull Bayou en route for Devall's Bluff and Little Rock. Scattered the command by various roads to clear the country of bushwhackers. August 16, reached Little Rock.

The results of the expedition have already been detailed. No enemy remained west of White River. The command was pushed into the field without proper preparation; the animals were in wretched condition. Officers and men acquitted themselves creditably, but there were irregularities, showing the necessity of much stricter discipline than was practiced.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. WEST,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Little Rock.

No. 3.

Report of Maj. James F. Dwight, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

Journal of cavalry expedition (regiments and detachments set forth on previous page) setting out from Little Rock, Ark., northward,

August 6, 1864, under command of Brig. Gen. J. R. West, U. S. Volunteers, pursuant to the following order:

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 58. } HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF LITTLE ROCK, *Little Rock, Ark., August 4, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. R. West, U. S. Volunteers, will proceed with all the available cavalry of this district in pursuit of the enemy's, reported to be on Little Red River, and will pursue them until they are captured or dispersed.

By order of Brig. Gen. E. A. Carr:

C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

REMARKS.

Saturday, August 6, 1864.—Left Huntersville, opposite Little Rock, at 7.30. Second Brigade, Colonel Stuart, having moved with train at 6. Road runs down river three or four miles, then turns to the left and north, and crosses railroad to Devall's Bluff in a few rods. Pickets at turning. Passed broken-down wagon at railroad—cause, tongue broken; load transferred. Overtook train two miles and a half south of Bayou Metoe, train stalling badly, owing to the weakness of mules, one wagon unloaded. Pushed on to Bayou Metoe, twelve miles, where found bridge useless, flooring removed. Some buildings of heavy timbers near by with which it might be repaired. Artillery was crossing at rude string piece bridge, three-quarters mile above. Horses were taken out of the artillery, and guns run across by hand. Train same way when it came up. Bank easy slope, ten feet high. Ford, saddle skirt deep, a few rods above. When the train came up, pushed on with the command, leaving Third Missouri Cavalry as train guard. Road good to Bayou Two Prairies, five miles. Crossed it by ford; deep on left bank. Bridge just below might be repaired. Went on to Austin (or Oakland Post-Office), eight miles. Good road most of way. Some swampy tracts; carts passed by daylight. Went into camp at Austin. Trains could not get up, but went into camp five miles below. Steam grist-mill at Austin makes thirty barrels a day. Forty men of Twenty-second Ohio Mounted Infantry joined us by Brownsville road near Austin.

Sunday, August 7.—Lieutenant-Colonel Calkins, with 250 Third Wisconsin and 50 U. S. Regulars, pushed on at early dawn to Stony Point, eight miles north, with instructions to drive the enemy, if found and not too strong, beyond Stony Point.

N. B.—Found Capt. W. C. Robinson, Company C, Glenn's regiment, Third Brigade (rebel), Arkansas, wounded and paroled here, from Helena fight, in July, 1863; is badly wounded in hip and will die.

Train and guard getting up at 11.30 o'clock, after delay by reason of tongue breaking, and teams weak; moved on at 12.12. Made Cypress Bottom Bayou at 1.45 o'clock; bridge in decent order; declivity to the bottom somewhat steep from the south, gradual slope up from the bottom northward. Road muddy but not bad. Went on to Jackson's farm, seven miles from Austin, and waited half an hour till train closed up, then to Stony Point, three-quarters of a mile more, where found Lieutenant-Colonel Calkins' command. He had seen no rebels. Pushed on to Bull Bayou, one mile farther, and went into camp. Some picket-firing. Just as advance neared Bull Bayou the rebels ran and tried to tear up flooring of the bridge, but had not time to do much damage. Colonel Geiger, with First Brigade, reported at 6 o'clock, having come up from Devall's Bluff, and went into camp on north side bayou. Reports a

fight with Jackman and 300 or 400 men at Hickory Plains to-day. A few rebels killed and taken prisoners. Major Snelling, with 250 Tenth Illinois, joined from Lewisburg as we came to camp. A reconnaissance of Third Wisconsin developed a few rebels, fugacious, and firing on north side bayou. Learned that Jackman passed north from Hickory Plains, about two miles beyond bridge, this morning, having come out from neighborhood road near Franklin's Mill, used by rebels for grinding, on creek four miles south of east from Jackson's road down the bottom.

Monday, August 8.—Second Brigade moved at early dawn; First Brigade with train at 8 o'clock. Caney Creek, five miles north of Bull Bayou, dry. Quarles' Bridge, over Bayou Des Arc, three miles further, in decent order. Third Michigan held bridge and pushed on direct road toward Searcy; Colonel Stuart with rest of brigade crossed two miles and a half above, and came down on Searcy from west. No rebels in Searcy. Reported by all the inhabitants that the enemy passed through the road traversed to-day in great haste last night, traveling northward. Searcy pretty much deserted; no buildings destroyed. From Searcy went up to Little Red River Landing, two miles and a half. Road descends all way, timbered and fields, easily defended from an attack from north. Went into camp on Little Red, on south side. Stuart came up soon after and crossed the ford, going into camp in open fields beyond. Water very low in the Red; rough rocky bed to stream; banks thirty feet high; even. From September to June this stream is navigable to White River boats, very low during June, July, and August. Road from Searcy, four miles east, leads to Prospect Bluffs; good ford. The rebels under McCray and Jackman all crossed the ford before light this morning, hastening north. From information received from inhabitants they were about 800 strong. They went twelve miles northeast, on the Grand Glaize road, and stopped at Stephens' Creek. Shelby is reported to be crossing, or to have crossed, the White at Augusta with intent to join them.

Tuesday, August 9.—Moved, with Geiger's (First) brigade leading, with two 12-pounder howitzers. A detachment Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, under Captain Kauffman, of 120 men, left at daylight to reconnoiter ahead all day, if not attacked. After crossing the Little Red the road runs northward for one mile and a quarter, then turns east, and passing over a high and good but stony road descends a steep declivity 100 feet high to the Overflow—name given to a creek which bounds on the west the swamps of the Mingo. About six miles from the landing a road to the left leads toward Grand Glaize, and to the right to Prospect Bluffs, three miles. After leaving the Overflow the road runs through the heavy bottom lands of the Mingo Swamps eight miles, to Glaize Creek, all timbered, with little underbrush; must be bad in wet weather. The Mingo is not much of a creek, though bad crossing on account of the deep mud; narrow. Stuart's brigade remains at bridge. First encamps at headquarters, two miles and a half below, on road to Augusta. After crossing bridge at Glaize road leads down directly east on a tongue of land to a point of land opposite Augusta, seven miles from bridge; also turns to left and leads three miles northeast to the White River, then turns down the bank two miles to a ferry called Hatch's, whence it is two miles to Augusta. Likewise on this last road another to the left, about two miles from the bridge, leads to Grand Glaize and Denmark. The whole land below the bridge is cane brake, with heavy bottom growth. The road toward the point narrow,

with several sloughs with steep banks—corduroy crossings—in bad order. After leaving the Overflow there are very few habitations and clearings. After crossing the Glaize Creek only two habitations, one three miles below the bridge on right-hand side and one five miles and a half below on left hand, and on the run bank (Chambers'). The banks of this tongue of land are low on the south side and bluff on the north side; sand spit opposite Augusta; run about twelve yards wide. Detachment of Third Michigan, Captain Latimer, seized ferry-boat at Hatch's in the p. m.: got it across under cover of their rifles, with a fight across the stream with a body of rebels, and after night-fall took it down below Augusta, together with a skiff. Went down and reconnoitered point, but had no means of crossing. Saw rebel pickets rushing about on our arrival. From a lagoon, about three-quarters of a mile long, on the road to the point, transferred a dug-out down and across the point three miles, and launched it below Augusta. Sent three men therein to Devall's Bluff with dispatches after dark.

Wednesday, August 10.—Seven o'clock moved Third Michigan down to point opposite Augusta. Crossed sergeant and seven men on the ferry-boat half a mile below, who came up and drove out few rebel pickets, then in evening brought up boat and crossed whole regiment, with two mountain howitzers of Tenth Illinois Cavalry, and sent ferry-boat up to ferry, two miles above. Third Michigan picketed strongly on road going out. Strong detachments from Second Brigade went northward toward Grand Glaize and Denmark to develop the enemy in that direction, with instructions to return not later than 10 o'clock to-morrow. Colonel Stuart reports destruction of salt-works, three miles and a half southwest from Glaize bridge, last night; 11 kettles, 60 evaporating vats, and 8 prisoners. Capacity about two bushels a day. Only works about here. In Augusta Shelby reported to have gone north with his command, which was encamped four miles off on Sunday. Calling in his commands and intending to drive McCray at Jacksonport, where he has a pontoon bridge across the Big Black, moved back headquarters and First Brigade to the Glaize bridge.

Thursday, August 11.—Ferry-boat having been taken up to Hatch's the Eighth Missouri crossed there; Ninth Iowa moved down on Ferry road and camped on bank of river one mile above ferry; Eleventh Missouri and First Nebraska camped at place where the road strikes river. Horses eat corn; no forage to be had. Shelby reported concentrating, to attack on east side of White, and no sign of the boats from Devall's Bluff yet. The Eighth is recrossed and boat sent down to Augusta for the Third Michigan to recross on. Very heavy rain storm commenced at 12 and lasted all day. The scout from north returned, having been to Denmark and gaining no tidings of the enemy save that McCray had rushed across the river to Jacksonport and joined Shelby there.

Friday, August 12.—Moved back from river with First Brigade. The Third Michigan crossed unopposed at Augusta. Joined at Glaize bridge and command took up march for Searcy; reached it at 3 and went into camp on south side, with pickets at fords above and below. Sent guides and three men Eighth Missouri through to General Steele, with messages at evening.

Saturday, August 13.—Detachment of fifty men Eighth Missouri Cavalry, Captain McAdoo, sent northward by Denmark road at early day. Fell in with rebels eight miles out; had a skirmish, and sent back for re-enforcements. The Third U. S. Cavalry, 250 men, were

sent to his assistance with instructions to develop the enemy. The supply train and worn-out horses sent back toward Devall's Bluff, with 125 sick and thirty escort. Moved out of camp toward Searcy. The First Brigade went into line of battle, and with skirmishers out between camp and Searcy. Moved at 11 o'clock through Searcy, on the Sugar Loaf Springs road, eleven and a half miles to Goad's, at intersection of this with the old military road from Little Rock to Batesville. Road leaves Searcy Valley on left, winds up and crosses a stony, rough divide with open oak woods. Several plantations on the road. The road lies on the rough hill for about five miles. Crossed Panther Creek six miles from Searcy. Camped at Goad's Ford; found five wagon loads of old corn near camp. Sent pickets to Hilcher's Ferry, ten miles on the Little Red. Lieutenant Guirado, aide-de-camp, and twelve men sent after the Third United States from the landing at 10 o'clock, with instructions to have them return via Hilcher's Ferry. Messengers arrived at 6 p. m. from Third United States; had joined the Eighth Missouri and advanced, but found no enemy. Sent party to Hilcher's Ferry, and thence to Fairview, to communicate with Third United States.

Sunday, August 14.—Lay in camp all day. Some picket-firing on the Searcy road, and a body of fifty reported. Sent out a scout who scattered them in direction of Little Red. Surgeon Foote, with escort of Ninth Iowa, reported having come up the White River in steamer Celeste, sent from Devall's Bluff in response to dispatch sent from Augusta. The boat landed him above the Red River, and he came through the country till he struck our trail. Reports tumbling into a party last night of five or eight rebels, who fled, firing. Boat arrived up at Friday eve, twenty-five miles below Augusta by the river, which there makes a great bend. A messenger from Captain McAdoo was fired on between here and Searcy to-day by two men. Lieutenant Guirado, with escort, came in at close of day from McAdoo, via Hilcher's Ferry. Reports no rebels discovered by that command as far as Fairview.

Monday, August 15, 6 o'clock.—Broke camp at early hour and moved back to Searcy, leaving Eleventh Missouri at Goad's, to await coming up of the Third United States from Searcy to Bayou Des Arc, where First Brigade diverged toward Hickory Plains, and Second and headquarters went on and into camp at Bull Bayou. First Brigade was ordered to Devall's Bluff by best road.

Tuesday, August 16.—The general commanding and staff, with Twenty-second Ohio Mounted Infantry (forty men), left Bull Bayou at 5 o'clock and pushed on to Brownsville, where took cars for Little Rock. Colonel Stuart, with Second Brigade, went on to Bayou Metoe, and camped; repaired the bridge, and on the 17th marched on to the Rock. The train sent from Searcy with the sick put into Brownsville in distress, owing to the weakness of the mules, and the men were transferred to Devall's Bluff by cars. Colonel Geiger's command arrived safe.

From Little Rock to Austin, twenty-five miles; Austin to Searcy Landing, twenty-six miles and a half; Searcy Landing to Augusta, twenty-five miles; Augusta to Searcy, twenty-five miles; Searcy Landing to Goad's, eleven miles and a half; Goad's to Searcy, nine miles; Searcy to Little Rock, fifty miles; total 172 miles.

JAMES F. DWIGHT,
Major Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

No. 4.

*Itinerary of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Seventh Army Corps, commanded by Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry.**

The brigade marched out of camp at 12 m. [August 6] to join in a cavalry expedition under Brigadier-General West against the rebel forces in the vicinity of Jacksonport and Batesville, Ark. Marched twenty miles and encamped near Des Arc, Ark.

August 7.—At 4.30 p. m. resumed march, and encamped at Bull Creek, a distance of thirty miles, where the brigade joined General West's command.

August 8.—Marched twenty miles, to Searcy Landing, on Little Red River.

August 10.—Marched back four miles and encamped.

August 11.—Marched to White River and crossed, and immediately recrossed and encamped.

August 12.—Proceeded to Searcy Landing, twenty-five miles, and encamped.

August 13.—Marched twelve miles into Searcy Valley and encamped.

August 14.—Took up line of march for Devall's Bluff, where the brigade arrived on the 17th.

No. 5.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS CONFEDERATE FORCES,
August 13, 1864.

COLONEL: The days of delusive calm and quietude were rudely broken in upon twenty-four hours after I last dispatched you. Five thousand Federals, with ten pieces of artillery (all cavalry), came up from Devall's Bluff like a thunderbolt, and drove in my outlying pickets and scouts right sturdily. They hoped to surprise me and disperse my recruits, besides capturing my pontoon bridge and ordnance. One long day before they struck my immediate vedettes I had sent all my ineffective men fifteen miles to the rear, and watched and waited on the east side of Black River for the denouement. I intended to fight them if they came 10,000 strong, but before they reached my position they changed their minds. They divided at Searcy, one portion going by Grand Glaize to Augusta, where they crossed White River and burned the mill there, and the other portion halting near Grand Glaize. They remained in Augusta only a short time, but recrossed the river, losing 6 men and 30 horses, and have all gone back to Searcy. They had eighty wagons and many ambulances. Their reason for the heavy move I conjecture to be this: The pressure on the railroad was getting tighter and tighter, and it became necessary to relieve it.

My future movements depend entirely on the orders brought by Major Lawrence. Nothing new has transpired since my last letter. The Federals beyond the Mississippi are getting whipped in every fight. The news from Missouri is glorious. This is God's chosen time for a raid there that will shake her from center to circumference. I send you a late paper. I reported that Erwin's operations on the Mississippi River

* From monthly return.

had been successful. So they were up to my last communication, but at a subsequent period, with a force of eighty men, he was attacked by 400 Federals and handled pretty severely, losing 10 killed and 20 wounded.

Hoping to receive favorable views from my Missouri application, I am, very truly, yours,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Camden, Ark.

AUGUST 7, 1864.—Skirmish near Huntsville, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. Alexander F. Denny, Forty-Sixth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. FORTY-SIXTH REGT. ENROLLED MISSOURI MIL.,
Huntsville, Mo., August 8, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the pleasure to report that I moved from this place on the morning of the 7th with a small detachment of the Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, commanded by Sergeant Fisher, and detachments of Captain Mayo's and Lieutenant McKinsey's Volunteer Militia, commanded by Lieutenant Dunn. We came upon the trail of Jim Anderson, the notorious robber and guerrilla, some five miles south of this place, about 10 o'clock, and after pursuing it about two hours lost it. I scoured the brush for miles, and at 2 p. m. came out upon the road from Huntsville to Fayette, at the residence of Owen Bagby. Four of our men rode up to the house, when Anderson and his men commenced firing upon them from the house. I ordered the column to dismount and charge them on foot. The boys came up in fine style, with a deafening yell, when Anderson mounted his men and retreated hastily through the rear of the farm, having previously left the gates down. I ordered the men to remount, and with some five or six of the men who had their horses in advance, charged the enemy as he retreated through the fields. We were obstructed by gates and fences, and the enemy got under cover of the woods some 300 yards in advance of us. With the little handful of men in the advance I ordered a charge through the thick brush, which was made in gallant style, random shots being fired at us and returned by our men until we reached a long lane. Here the chase became fierce and rapid. We ran upon the rear, coming on two men mounted on one horse. The horse was shot from under them, and the men scaled the fence and took to the pastures. George Raynolds, of Captain Mayo's company, who was with me in the advance, having fired his last shot fell back to reload. A short hand-to-hand conflict with pistols ensued between the robber and myself, when, after the exchange of some four or five shots, George Peak, Company D, Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, came to my relief and ended his existence with a rifle-shot. He had been previously wounded in the neck and back. John Kale, of Company D, Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, pursued the other dismounted man on foot through the fields until he had exhausted his last shot, having previously wounded him in the neck. So soon as the men came up I ordered them forward, but Anderson being so well mounted could

not be overtaken. The men all conducted themselves well. At the time of the attack we were not fully aware of Anderson's strength. There were only ten men at Bagby's, yet their number was reported to us subsequently at thirty men. Result of the skirmish, 1 man killed and 1 mortally wounded; also Jim Anderson reported shot through the nose; 1 horse killed, 1 wounded, and 1 captured; also 1 gun and 4 or 5 pistols. Money taken from the person of the dead man: $90 in gold, $286 in greenbacks, $4.50 in silver, $16 W. M. B.; total, $396.50. Our loss, 1 horse. Anderson turned into the brush after a run of three miles and scattered his men. We followed the trail as long as we could, when we turned in the direction of Huntsville. We came upon him again at 6 o'clock in the brush within three miles of Huntsville. A few shots were fired by our men and an exciting chase of ten minutes followed, when the enemy was lost in the thick brush.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. F. DENNY,
Lieut. Col. Forty-sixth Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

I have sent out men on fresh horses to go in pursuit this morning.

GENERAL: I have made rather a long report of a short fight, knowing that outside a military point of view you would feel a personal interest in my operations. Let me state here, general, that Bill Anderson has stated that he intended concentrating 200 men in Randolph, and this continuous hanging around indicates to my mind that such are his intentions.

A. F. D.

Gen. J. B. DOUGLAS,
Commanding Eighth Military District, Mexico, Mo.

AUGUST 7, 1864.—Affair near Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.

Report of Maj. Edward W. Wynkoop, First Colorado Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., August 9, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report for information of the colonel commanding that on the night of the 7th instant at about 10 o'clock I received intelligence that a train had been attacked about seven miles from this post by a band of Indians supposed to be Kiowas and Comanches, who immediately crossed to the south side of the river, and there joining a large party proceeded up the river. I immediately sent word to Captain Gray, at Camp Wynkoop, to throw his command on the opposite side of the Arkansas River to cut off the retreat of the Indians, should they proceed in that direction. In the meanwhile, with eighty men and one howitzer, I crossed the river at this point for the purpose of proceeding up the other side rapidly in pursuit. My command consisted of detachments of Company D, commanded by Captain Soule, and Company K, commanded by Lieutenant Quinby, and Company G, with howitzer, commanded by Lieutenant Baldwin. While crossing the river I received a dispatch from Bent's Ranch to the effect that a party of Indians had been there that evening, including Satanta, war chief of the Kiowas, and two more of their principal chiefs, that they had but a small party with them in sight, but the supposition was,

judging from the importance of the chiefs present, that a very large war party was in the immediate neighborhood. The dispatch also stated that the Indians had proceeded down the river, and a few miles below Bent's Ranch they attacked a house occupied by a family named Rood and murdered all the inmates. By a forced march I proceeded up in the direction of Bent's Ranch, seeing no signs of Indians until I reached the house said to have been attacked by the Indians, which was unoccupied, but which bore evidence of there having been a conflict, an attempt having been made to fire the house from the outside, which had proved unsuccessful. I afterward learned that the house had been gallantly defended by four men who had been attacked by fourteen of the red devils, and had finally driven them off, killing one of them. I then proceeded as far as Bent's Ranch, scouting the country, but finding no evidence of there having been more than fourteen Indians, and those having apparently rapidly decamped in direction of the Cimarron, after fruitless search I returned to-day to this post, my men having been in the saddle for two nights, being entirely exhausted. I am well convinced Satanta with 1,000 or more warriors of the Kiowas and Comanches is located over on the Cimarron or in that vicinity. I have also received information that four white men have been murdered by these same Indians near the Cimarron Crossing. The available troops that I have in this garrison will not warrant me in attacking Satanta at present, not being able to take more than fifty men into the field, after leaving what would barely suffice for the absolute protection of the post, If it is possible I would respectfully recommend that I receive some re-enforcements, so that I may take a sufficient command in the field to punish this fiend Satanta and his murdering crew.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to remain, with much respect, your obedient servant,

E. W. WYNKOOP,

Major First Colorado Cavalry, Commanding Fort Lyon.

Lieut. J. S. MAYNARD,

Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Colo., Denver, Colo. Ter.

AUGUST 7–8, 1864.—Scout from Independence into La Fayette County, Mo.

Report of Capt. Thomas Moses, jr., Second Colorado Cavalry.

INDEPENDENCE, MO., *August 8, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that pursuant to order I marched from this station at 4 a. m. on the 7th instant, with the following command, viz: Lieutenant Parsons, Lieutenant Ducey, and 128 men. I proceeded south on the Pleasant Hill road as far as Grenter's farm, but could not discover any fresh signs of the enemy; thence marched east for Round Prairie, and when near Snibar Station met Captain Blair, of the Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, with his command, and as I found that he had just scouted through the Round Prairie country, I marched in the direction of Greenton, in La Fayette County. When near Lick Skillet, we discovered five bushwhackers, at a distance of about one mile from us, when I ordered Lieutenant Ducey to take the advance guard and pursue them, which he did for about four miles, but could not overtake them, and returned to the command. Thence I marched to the place of Mr. Harp, living on the line of Jackson and La

Fayette Counties, and encamped for the night. Learned from good authority in the neighborhood that Thornton, Quantrill, Todd, Yeager, Taylor, Thrailkill, and Anderson were encamped four miles from that place on the 4th instant with from 300 to 500 men, but was unable to ascertain whether they had left or not. They were reported camped on the John Campbell farm. At daylight I marched for that place, but found that they had broken camp and left on the evening of the 5th instant; but, judging by the appearance of their camp, should not think they had over 200 or 300 men. Mrs. Campbell informed me that Todd had 150 men; he came there with his command on Thursday morning, the 4th instant, and she thinks left the same evening. They divided up into small parties, and came in the direction of Blue River and Raytown. I also ascertained that small parties of from six to ten came from the north, northeast, and northwest on the same day, and returned the next morning, and judging from all the information that I could gather think that they met to hold a council of war, with what ulterior object I could not say. Thence I returned to this station, arriving at about 5 o'clock this p. m.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TH. MOSES, JR.,
Captain, Second Colorado Cavalry, Commanding Post.

Maj. J. NELSON SMITH,
Commanding Station, Independence, Mo.

AUGUST 8–11, 1864.—Scout from Salina to Mulberry Creek, Kans.

Reports of Capt. Henry Booth, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salina, August 7, 1864—4 p. m.

SIR: I have the honor to forward a dispatch just received from Smoky Hill Crossing concerning the stampeding of the horses of Company H, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, stationed at that point. I learn from the dispatch bearer, who was one of the herders, that the Indians numbered from fifteen to seventeen. They came from toward the Arkansas River, but might have come from up the Smoky Hill and simply secreted themselves below the ranch to enable them to stampede the stock up the river. The Indians fired upon the herders with arrows mostly; one only fired with a fire-arm. The number of horses taken is from forty to forty-five, with five mules belonging to the Kansas Stage Company. After the Indians had driven the stock about a half a mile they appeared to be in no hurry. The soldiers from the ranch pursued them on foot as far as was any use, firing upon them with their carbines, but had accomplished nothing when the messenger left. I shall send a scout up the Saline River to-morrow morning, as I think there is more possibility of finding them on that stream than on the Smoky Hill. I shall go with the scout myself and acquaint myself with the country and gain such knowledge of the whereabouts of the Indians as possible. I would like to have enough men to make a thorough search of this country, but you are aware, general, that my company is but partially mounted and poorly armed to hunt Indians, having only carbines. I would like to have revolvers or sabers, or both. I have no transportation. It is my

opinion that the Indians are determined to take all the stock in this part of the country and mount themselves well before fighting much. The people here are alarmed about their stock. They are trying to raise a squad to pursue the Indians up the Smoky while I go up Saline River.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BOOTH,

Capt. Co. L, Eleventh Kansas Vol. Cav., Comdg. Post at Salina.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS.

[Inclosure.]

SMOKY HILL CROSSING, *August 7, 1864—9 a. m.*

SIR: We have had all our horses stampeded this morning except two, which the herders rode. They were taken at 7 a. m. while out herding. There were about fifteen Indians in number, as near as I could judge. The horses were run directly up the Smoky.

W. H. STRUTHERS,

Sergeant, Company H, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, Comdg. Detachment.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salina, August 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the result of a scout made by myself and twenty enlisted men of my command up the Saline River, a distance of thirty-five or forty miles.

Sunday evening, August 7, 1864, I received a dispatch from Smoky Hill Crossing stating that the horses of H Company, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, had been stampeded and run off by a party of Indians. The dispatch stated that the stock had been run north. I immediately determined to proceed up the Saline River and intercept, if possible, the thieving redskins. We started Monday morning with four days' rations; having no transportation we could carry no more. We proceeded up the south bank of Saline River, throwing out flankers on each side to discover, if possible, traces of prowling bands of Indians. We marched this day about twenty-three miles and camped about a mile from the river to keep away from the timber, to guard against Indians stampeding our stock. Tuesday morning we continued up the river to the mouth of Elkhorn Creek, which we crossed and proceeded up the west bank. This creek heads in toward the Smoky Hill and affords a good place for Indians to resort to, as it is surrounded by high hills, is well watered, and has good grass for that country. We followed this creek to its head, scouting on both sides, but discovered no traces of Indians. We camped on the head of this stream Tuesday night. Wednesday morning we started south and struck the head of Clear Creek, a branch of Smoky Hill, which we examined thoroughly but discovered nothing. We then turned east and came upon the headwaters of Mulberry Creek, which stream we followed to Salina, where we arrived Thursday evening, August 11, 1864. The heads of the streams that run into the Saline and Smoky Hill Rivers afford a good place for Indians to rendezvous previous to making a descent upon any point east of them. I don't think there is or has been any Indians on the south side of Saline River within thirty-five miles of this place. I find upon my return that a messenger came into this post on Monday evening (as per

report) from the north side of Saline River, with a report that four men had been killed by Indians. The facts you will find in my report as stated by Sergeant Reynolds, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, who accompanied the scouting party.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BOOTH,

Capt. Company L, Eleventh Kansas Vol. Cav., Comdg. Post.

Major-General BLUNT.

(Copy to Major-General Curtis.)

AUGUST 9–15, 1864.—Operations in Central Arkansas, with skirmishes.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Eugene A. Carr, U. S. Army, commanding District of Little Rock.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

No. 3.—Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Eugene A. Carr, U. S. Army, commanding District of Little Rock.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF LITTLE ROCK,
Little Rock, Ark., ——— —, 1864.

Record of combats, skirmishes, &c., in District of Little Rock, during the fifteen days ending August 15, 1864:

August 9.—Dispatch received from Colonel Clayton, commanding Pine Bluff, states that his scouts captured 2 Confederates to-day.

August 11.—Dispatches received from Colonel Ryan, commanding Lewisburg, states Captain Herring, while on an eighteen days' scout, Yell County, killed the two Newsom brothers.

August 12.—Dispatches received from Colonel Ryan, commanding Lewisburg, states Lieutenant-Colonel Fuller, while on a scout to Clinton, Kinderhook, Richwoods, and Wiley's Cove, killed 1 and captured 12 of the enemy. Dispatch received from General Andrews, commanding Devall's Bluff, states that a lieutenant and 12 men of the Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry, belonging to Hay Station, while going after water with wagon, were captured by a superior force and the lieutenant wounded. A party of Eleventh Missouri Cavalry was started out after them, recaptured the lieutenant and men, killing 2 of the enemy and captured 2 horses.

August 13.—Dispatch received from Col. A. H. Ryan, commanding Lewisburg, says Captain Hinkle has just sent in 10 prisoners captured near Galman [Quitman?].

On the 11th instant Captain Dodd's company of independent scouts ran in a camp Confederates near Saline River and routed them, killing 6, wounding several, taking 2 prisoners, and capturing 16 horses, without sustaining any loss.

August 14.—Dispatch received from Colonel Ryan, commanding Lewisburg, states that Captain Boles returned from scout to Dardanelle,

Danville, &c.; had two skirmishes with the enemy. Two of his men wounded; killed 3, wounded 4 rebels, and brought in 3 prisoners. Captain Blansel, of Scott's company of bushwhackers, killed.

Respectfully submitted.

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. W. D. GREEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Dept. of Ark., Little Rock, Ark.

No. 2.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

DEVALL'S BLUFF, *August 12, 1864—8 p. m.*

Yesterday a lieutenant and twelve men of Fifty-fourth Illinois, belonging to Hay Station nearest here, while returning to camp with water, having a mule team, were surprised and captured, in the timber about a mile from camp, by a superior number of bushwhackers. The lieutenant was wounded. The teamster escaped. A party of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry was sent out, and recaptured the lieutenant and the men, killed 2 of the enemy and captured 2 horses.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. C. H. DYER.

No. 3.

Report of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

LEWISBURG, *August 14, 1864—9 a. m.*

Captain Boles returned last night from scout to Dardanelle, Danville, and Bluffton; had two skirmishes, 2 of his men wounded. Killed 3, wounded 4, and brought in 3 prisoners. Captain Blansel, bushwhacker, of Scott's company, killed. No enemy in Perry and Yell Counties except bushwhackers.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 10–12, 1864.—Scouts from Morganza, La., with skirmishes.

Report of Brig. Gen. Michael K. Lawler, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., August 14, 1864.

CAPTAIN: On the 10th instant, at 9 p. m., I sent out detachments of cavalry through all the parts of this parish. Lieutenant-Colonel Crebs, Eighty-seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry, with 350 men, marched through the upper part of the parish, and a small regiment of

infantry was sent to the La Tenache road, about three miles below Williamsport, as a support to the cavalry. Colonel Crebs, in consequence of the celerity of his movements and his previous knowledge of the country, succeeded in capturing a rebel lieutenant, named Collins, and 16 men. They were captured in different detachments. He also captured 20 horses, about 18 pistols, and the same number of Enfield rifles, saddles, &c. Lieutenant-Colonel Crebs and his party rode eighty miles in twenty-six hours. Our loss was 3 men wounded and 2 horses killed. Lieutenant-Colonel Gurney, Second New York Volunteer Veteran Cavalry, advanced through the lower part of the parish with about 300 cavalry and a small regiment of infantry as a support. The infantry halted at the Morgan's Ferry road about eight miles from this place. Lieutenant-Colonel Gurney captured 6 men, 12 horses, and 15 small-arms. Major Magoffin, C. S. Army, a nephew of Ex Governor Magoffin, of Kentucky, in attempting to escape from our men, was mortally injured by a fall from his horse. Lieutenant Slack, C. S. Army, was mortally wounded and has since been reported dead. Our loss was 1 man wounded and 3 captured; also 2 horses killed. Lieutenant-Colonel Gurney's expedition returned to camp on the 12th instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. S. C. FARRINGTON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 11, 1864.—Skirmish near Sand Creek, Colo. Ter.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Edward W. Wynkoop, First Colorado Cavalry.
No. 2.—Lieut. Joseph A. Cramer, First Colorado Cavalry.
No. 3.—Lieut. Horace W. Baldwin, Independent Battery Colorado Light Artillery, commanding detachment First Colorado Cavalry.
No. 4.—Lieut. Ira Quinby, First Colorado Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Edward W. Wynkoop, First Colorado Cavalry.

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *August 13, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the colonel commanding, that on the 11th instant while my ordnance sergeant, Kenyon, was a few miles north of this post in search of a stray horse, he was pursued by fifteen Indians, they following him to within sight of the commissary building. In ten minutes I had thirty men in the saddle, and dividing them into two squads started them immediately in pursuit. The detachments were respectively commanded by Lieutenants Cramer and Baldwin, copies of whose reports I inclose. Toward night, after hearing that Lieutenant Cramer was fighting the Indians, and receiving a message from him to the effect that he believed there to be a very large body in his neighborhood on Sand Creek, I hurriedly dispatched Lieutenant Quinby with thirty men to re-enforce Lieutenant Cramer. In the meanwhile Company E, Captain Gray,

having arrived from Camp Wynkoop, I left them to garrison the post and followed in person with a section of the battery, Lieutenant Hardin, and a small detachment of cavalry, Captain Soule. I was accompanied by Captain Robbins, chief of cavalry. It was very dark when I left the post, and I had gone but a few miles when a thunder-shower arose, making it impossible to know with any certainty what direction I was proceeding. I still kept on, and after a march of over six hours succeeded in finding Sand Creek; there halting the command I sent out scouts and remained until daybreak. On account of having been thrown considerably out of my course by the storm, I was unable to find either Lieutenant Cramer or the whereabouts of the Indians. The Indians are supposed to be Kiowas. There is a probability that they are Arapahoes. At all events, it is my intention to kill all Indians I may come across until I receive orders to the contrary from headquarters. Just as I was about leaving the post with the above-mentioned command two men were driven in by the Indians who were proceeding up the river. I have received official intelligence to the effect that thirty men of Company A, First Cavalry of Colorado, have had a fight with a large body of Indians, near the crossing of the Arkansas, and lost all their horses. A few days before that two men of Company A were murdered while out alone; two men of Company E while at Camp Wynkoop are supposed also to have been murdered. I desire also to report the fact that the carbines with which our regiment is armed are absolutely worthless, it being impossible to discharge over two-thirds of them. I am obliged to depend almost altogether on the pistol and saber, and you are aware that a large number of the men are without pistols. I have no doubt that the post was surrounded by Indians for the purpose of endeavoring to run off my herds, but so far I have entirely baffled them, not having lost a single head. I will continue to remain as vigilant as possible.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. W. WYNKOOP,

Major First Cav. of Colo., Comdg. Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.

J. S. Maynard,

Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Colo., Denver, Colo. Ter.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Joseph A. Cramer, First Colorado Cavalry.

Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., *August 12, 1864.*

Sir: In pursuance to Special Orders, No. 169, dated at these headquarters, Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., August 11, 1864, I started from this post at 12 m., proceeding down the river a distance of four or five miles and took a due north course for three miles, and there came in sight of a band of Indians who were from five to six miles in advance of us, they going in a northeast direction. I immediately gave chase, and after a race of fifteen or twenty miles I came up with them, fourteen in number, who immediately turned and charged my command, and at the same time endeavoring to get to our rear. At the time that the fight commenced I had but six men; the rest, whose horses had failed, were to our rear, coming up as fast as possible. As soon as the rest of our

men had joined us we advanced, driving them and following them four miles, in which it was a running fight, resulting in wounding four Indians and capturing one pony, with no loss on our side. I here sent back a messenger to report the facts to you, and ask for instructions. We were then twenty-five miles from the post; all of our horses given out. After a rest of a few moments we went over on Sand Creek for water, which we found in abundance; then followed on for twenty miles farther, but were unable to get nearer than three quarters of a mile of them. Our horses all gave out but three. Went into camp on Sand Creek at an Indian crossing, where from 100 to 150 had crossed but an hour or two before we arrived, their trail leading southeast. At 10 at night there came up a very heavy rain-storm spoiling all our ammunition, thereby obliging us to start for the post, where we arrived a little after sunrise on the 12th, traveling a distance of ninety miles.

Allow me here to speak of the men who accompanied me, all of whom, with one exception, behaved with coolness and bravery. I would more particularly speak of Sergeant Forbes, Company D; Corporal Yakee, Company D; and Sergeant Reed, of Company L, and recommend them to your notice. Had we had good arms I am satisfied we could have captured the whole band, but our carbines (Starr) were useless, only two out of eleven that could be fired.

Respectfully submitted to Major Wynkoop for approval.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. CRAMER,
Second Lieutenant Company G, First Cavalry of Colorado.

Maj. E. W. WYNKOOP.

No. 3.

Report of Lieut. Horace W. Baldwin, Independent Battery Colorado Light Artillery, commanding detachment First Colorado Cavalry.

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *August 12, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that in compliance with Special Orders, No. 169, dated Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., August 11, 1864, I crossed the river at this post with a command of one non-commissioned officer and fifteen privates of K Squadron, First Cavalry of Colorado. I proceeded down the river on the south side until I had satisfied myself that the Indians had not crossed, and believing that I could render more effective service by crossing I crossed the river about twelve miles below this post and immediately took the trail of the enemy. I followed this trail until about 4 p. m., when I met a messenger from Lieutenant Cramer's command, who told me that by riding five miles directly north I would find Lieutenant Cramer engaged with the Indians. I made all haste in the direction named, but failed to find Lieutenant Cramer. I continued to travel in this direction until it became so dark that I could not see an object at 100 feet distant. I was at this time near the lime bluffs on Sand Creek, but believing that it would not be safe for me to camp with horses in such condition I marched back to the lakes, ten miles from Sand Creek, where I rested my stock about two hours. My men being very poorly supplied with clothing, and having no rations, the night being cold and rainy, I thought it advisable for me to return to this post and

report again for orders. My men were in the saddle about eighteen hours and rode within that time sixty-five miles. I arrived at this post about one hour before daylight August 12, 1864.

Respectfully submitted.

HORACE W. BALDWIN,
Second Lieut., Ind. Batty. Colo. Vol. Arty., Comdg. Detachment.

Lieut. W. W. DENISON,
First Colorado Cavalry, Post Adjutant.

No. 4.

Report of Lieut. Ira Quinby, First Colorado Cavalry.

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *August 12, 1864.*

SIR: Agreeable to Special Orders, No. 169, dated Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., August 11, ordering me with twenty men of Company K, First Cavalry of Colorado, to re-enforce Lieutenant Cramer, I left this post at 7.30 p. m. the 11th and proceeded as I supposed in the direction he had taken, but owing to the darkness of the night I lost my way, and after wandering about until nearly midnight I camped until morning, then started in the direction I supposed he had gone. After traveling about fifteen miles I struck his trail returning to this post, upon which I immediately returned. I did not see any Indians on the trip.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

IRA QUINBY,
First Lieut., First Cavalry of Colorado, Comdg. Company K.

Maj. E. W. WYNKOOP,
Commanding Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.

AUGUST 11, 1864.—Skirmish at Hartville, Mo.

Reports of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *August 13, 1864.*

There was some fighting at Hartville on Thursday night between the troops stationed at that post and rebel force supposed to be Tracy's command, about 200 men; result is yet unknown. The rebel force came from Texas County. A reconnaissance from Rolla to that county would probably be attended with favorable results. Colonel Freeman's command is at Hickman Mills, on Strawberry, said to consist of 1,500 men, well armed and mounted. Shelby's headquarters on Monday last were two miles north of Batesville. His command there said to amount to 3,500 men. Colonel Dobbin called on him for re-enforcements this day, representing that he was hard pressed by our troops between Devall's Bluff and Helena. From the most reliable information I can get, the force of the enemy that can reach my outposts without opposition is as follows: General Shelby's, 3,500; Colonel Freeman's, 1,500; Majors Nichols, Brown, Pickler, and Tracy, 700; aggregate, 7,200 [?]. The information I have concerning Marmaduke's command is conflicting as to its position, some reports being that it is in the rear of General Steele's lines, and some that it is in front. All these forces, I think,

except Dobbin's and Marmaduke's, are likely to advance this fall if they can subsist, and this they can do in roasting-ear time. I think that ordinary prudence requires that one more battery should be stationed at Springfield for sixty days, until the last of October. Everything is quiet in the district, with the exception of the Hartville affair.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *August 20, 1864.*

The force on Cowskin Prairie proved to be three squadrons of Adair's regiment, of Stand Watie's command, added to the bushwhackers. It has been driven from that section with a loss of 1 officer and 4 men killed and gone to some point in the vicinity of Fort Smith. The force that came near Hartville was Tracy's command and was immediately driven back south, with a loss of 1 killed and 3 wounded. Bands of from fifteen to thirty-five men (rebels) are nightly passing south in unfrequented paths. Citizens and soldiers pursuing have captured some horses, but as yet none of the men. They commit no depredations more than to steal a horse now and then. Nearly all the recruits and poorly armed men of General Shelby's command were at or within one day's march of Batesville (north) last Sunday. Shelby failed to re-enforce Dobbin in season to enable him to hold his position and Dobbin retreated, losing 17 men killed and some prisoners and horses. Dobbin received some 3,000 stand of arms across the Mississippi River below Helena some two or three weeks since, with which the recruits in Northern Arkansas are being armed. He also received ammunition. Some of his line officers say that Little Rock is to be taken before any effort is made to advance into Missouri; others that he is to advance anyway and before long. I think his plans and designs will develop within the next two or three weeks. The enemy's movements known here now would seem to indicate an attack upon Little Rock or our lines of communications to it. Everything is quiet in the district.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Commanding District.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 11-13, 1864.—Expedition from Helena to Kent's Landing, Ark.

Report of Capt. Eli Ramsey, Sixtieth U. S. Colored Troops.

HELENA, ARK., *August 14, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the progress and result of a scout under my command, composed of four commissioned officers and seventy-five men of the Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry and six men from Battery C, Second U. S. Colored Light Artillery. Embarked on board steamer H. A. Homeyer at 5.30 p. m. 11th instant; arrived at Kent's Landing at 10.30 p. m. Leaving ten men under charge of a lieutenant to guard the boat, I proceeded with my command to the plantation

occupied by a Mr. Miller, at which place I expected to find two deserters from Battery C, Second U. S. Colored Light Artillery, but they, having heard us while effecting a landing, made their escape. Thence we marched to the place of Mr. Nash for the purpose of capturing a rebel soldier by the name of Bell. He having made his escape, and the night being exceedingly dark and rainy, I allowed the men to rest till daylight, when we marched to Mr. Short's, but finding nothing we returned to the boat, having accomplished nothing, save taking four horses. At 4 p. m. 12th instant got under way and went up the river to Hamlin's. Sent the guides and one lieutenant, mounted, to obtain what information they could. They ascertained that there was a force of rebels within seven miles, variously estimated from 200 to 300, and that their object in that neighborhood was to co-operate with a force in Mississippi in crossing over arms and ammunition into Arkansas, at the head of Buck Island. On learning this I run up to the island and anchored out in the stream until daylight, when I got under way for Helena, stopping at Mr. Diamond's and Miller's, where I succeeded in capturing the two deserters aforementioned. Arrived at Helena 9 p. m. 13th instant, having taken during the expedition 6 horses, 3 mules, and 7 head of cattle. The roads were in very bad condition, and it rained almost continually, and it was impossible, under the circumstances, to accomplish more.

ELI RAMSEY,
Captain, Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry, Commanding Scout.

AUGUST 11-19, 1864.—Operations in Johnson County, Mo., with skirmish (12th) near Holden.

Report of Capt. Melville U. Foster, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HOLDEN, MO., *August 20, 1864.*

I have the honor to make tri-monthly report of marches, scouts, &c., of troops under my command, as follows:

August 11, took Lieutenant Marr and twenty men; went on scout to Walnut Creek; found nothing. Returned on the 13th; traveled fifty miles. Same day Lieutenant Pharis, with fifteen men of Company C, went on foot scout north on Blackwater. Returned on the 13th, having discovered nothing; traveled thirty miles.

August 12, Corporal Adams, with ten men Company G, in charge of forage train, encountered Hutchinson's gang, eight in number, at Lotspeich's; had lively skirmish; captured 5 guns.

August 16, took Lieutenant Marr and thirty men; went to Norris Creek; found nobody; went to Honey Creek; saw three bushwhackers; ran them out of their huts. Returned on the 19th; traveled seventy miles. Same day Captain Baker and Lieutenant Combs, with thirty men, drove Panther and Walnut Creeks; traveled thirty miles.

August 17, Lieutenant Pharis, with twenty-five men, was sent in pursuit of the gang that burned the stage. Could not find them. Returned on the 18th; traveled forty miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MELL. U. FOSTER,
Captain, Commanding.

Lieut. J. N. PENNOCK,
Adjt. 7th Regt. Cav. Missouri State Mil., Warrensburg, Mo.

AUGUST 11–OCTOBER 28, 1864.—Operations against Indians in Nebraska Territory, with skirmish (September 20) near Fort Cottonwood.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Robert B. Mitchell, U. S. Army, commanding District of Nebraska.

No. 2.—Lieut. Thomas Flanagan, Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding detachment of artillery.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Robert B. Mitchell, U. S. Army, commanding District of Nebraska.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA,
Omaha, Nebr. Ter., October 14, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a journal* of the operations of the troops under my command after leaving camp at Chalk Bluffs, on Solomon River, September 8, 1864, until September 24, 1864, at which time active operations ceased. Subsequent to the time of the operations as detailed in the journal inclosed my movements were conducted over a country so well known to the military that I did not deem a journal necessary, and therefore submit the following synopsis of my movements: I remained at Cottonwood two days to recruit the horses and secure the necessary supplies, marching at sundown, September 17, 1864, up the Platte River, intending if possible to strike a band of Brule Sioux in the neighborhood of Ash Hollow, proceeding without anything of interest occurring until arriving at the old California Crossing, where I met a small band of Ogalalla Sioux under the guidance of Two Face, who has been our friend from the first. I gave these Indians protection, sending them to Cottonwood. I crossed the river at this point, moving as rapidly as possible to Ash Hollow, and through that across the North Platte on the Little Blue. We were too late, however, as the Indians had fled northwest through the Sand Hills to the headwaters of the Loup Fork or Niobrara Rivers. Their trails were all pointing that way. I ordered Captain O'Brien, with his company and one howitzer, up the Blue, and moved down the North Platte with the remainder of my command, proceeding with as much rapidity as practicable with the worn-out condition of my horses to Cedar Bluffs, finding no Indians. From there I moved toward Cottonwood, arriving at that post September 24, having marched in the aggregate since leaving that post 212 miles, seeing no hostile Indians save an occasional scout. I was satisfied that farther pursuit for the present was useless. I immediately placed my troops at suitable points along the lines of communication between Julesburg and the Kansas line, with orders to patrol in such a manner as to thoroughly protect the route and yet enable them to put their horses in condition for a rapid march after hostile Indians should opportunity offer. The Pawnees were ordered home and the rolls containing their accounts sent to your headquarters for action. I returned to these headquarters as soon as I felt satisfied my orders were being carefully carried out.

I am, major, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. MITCHELL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Kansas.

* Omitted.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Thomas Flanagan, Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding detachment of artillery.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS., *November —, 1864.*

SIR: In compliance with your communication of October 31, 1864, I herewith transmit my report of expedition after hostile Indians:

I left Fort Leavenworth, Kans., on the 11th of August, 1864, with two pieces of artillery and thirty-five men for Omaha, Nebr. Ter. At Plattsmouth I was ordered to disembark on account of the low stage of water and proceed by land to Fort Kearny, Nebr. Ter. I left Plattsmouth August 17, traveling on what is called the ridge road, but water is so scarce the animals had to be watered with buckets; wood is also scarce, but grass is good. About forty miles west of Plattsmouth I saw the first indications of alarm amongst the settlers on account of the Indian troubles. I met about 200 men, women, and children leaving their houses and their all behind them for fear of their hostilities. I advised them to return, but their terror was too great to allow them to do so. I found the houses on the road all deserted and the fences carried away by passing trains. Those people were, in my opinion, very foolish for leaving, as there was not an Indian to be seen in that section of the country. If they had stopped, collected together, and built a fort on some stream and placed their families there, there would have been no occasion for their leaving and having their property destroyed. I arrived at Junction Branch, on the Platte River, August 22, 1864. Here the three roads from Plattsmouth join—the river road, the ridge road, and the lower road. Here I would note and recommend the lower road as much preferable for traveling to either of the other two. At this point, forty miles east of Kearny, there is an abundance of wood and a plentiful supply of good water and grass. August 24, arrived at Fort Kearny, having traveled the distance of 212 miles in seven days. Here I found Major-General Curtis and Brigadier-General Mitchell organizing and making arrangements for an expedition against hostile Indians.

I left Fort Kearny September 1 with the command for Plum Creek, thirty-five miles west of Kearny; arrived there at sundown that evening. The road is level along the Platte Bottom, with good grass and water. About half a mile east of Plum Creek are the graves of eleven men, murdered by the Indians on the 8th of August, and the remains of a train they had burned. The number of guns having been increased to five pieces, by one from Saint Joseph, and two at Kearny, two pieces were ordered to report to Captain Gove, commanding General Curtis' escort. One piece was ordered to report to Colonel Livingston, commanding First Nebraska Veteran Volunteer Cavalry, and I was ordered to report to Colonel Summers, commanding Seventh Iowa Cavalry, with two pieces and a detachment of sixteen men. September 3, left Plum Creek and marched in a southwest direction about forty miles, and camped on the Republican River. No wood on the line of this day's march, but good grass and water when we reached the Republican. Crossed the river next morning; crossing bad in consequence of quicksands. Saw where a party of Sioux Indians had camped about ten days previous. Scouts were immediately sent out, but failed to discover in what direction they had gone. We then marched up a cañon for about two miles in length, in some places so narrow that a wagon had scarcely room to go through. The hills around here are barren of everything but buffalo grass, which is of a whitish color,

This grass is good for horses, but so short that considerable time is required to collect a sufficient supply for any considerable number of animals. September 4, we encamped on a creek called Crooked Nose by the Indians; good grass, wood, and water here. Pawnee Indians who accompanied the command as guides and scouts killed some buffalo. As yet we had not discovered any of the hostile Indians. September 5, marched at 7 a. m., having sent out a pioneer party to make crossings for the wagons and artillery. Camped on the Beaver Creek that night, which is a nice stream with plenty of wood, water, and grass. While here Maj. R. H. Hunt was sent out with a detachment of cavalry and one piece of artillery to look out for Indians. September 6, moved to Prairie Dog Creek; here Maj. R. H. Hunt and his command joined us, having during the previous evening and to-day traveled over 100 miles of the country, but saw no Indians. He found an Indian pony, and saw other signs of them, without discovering them. September 7, reached Solomon's Fork. It is a splendid stream, good wood, grass, and water; from here Captain Wilcox, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, was sent out with his company on scout, and here the command was divided, General Curtis taking the First Nebraska Veteran Volunteer Cavalry, one company Nebraska militia, and a detachment of the Eleventh Ohio Cavalry and one company Eleventh Kansas Cavalry; General Mitchell taking the Seventh Iowa Cavalry and two pieces of artillery and Indian scouts. September 8, General Curtis marched east, and General Mitchell west, to whose command I was attached. We marched up Solomon's Fork about twenty miles; here we encamped waiting the return of Captain Wilcox's command, which joined us that evening: he saw no Indians, but saw signs; found the place where a large body of them had encamped but a short time previous. Captain Wilcox reports to have seen wagon tracks and white men's footprints in the sand. September 9, marched in the direction of Medicine Lake, which is about forty miles south of Cottonwood Springs. One of the scouts reported this a favorite place for Indians. September 10, started out at 4 a. m., marched in a northwesterly direction about forty miles, and camped on Prairie Dog Creek, about thirty-six miles above, where the command had previously crossed; good grass, wood, and water. September 11, marched to Beaver Creek, traveling in a northwest direction. September 12, encamped on Crooked Nose Creek; saw a few buffalo, did not kill any. The horses were now getting into a poor condition from the necessarily long marches and the want of corn. The want of picket-ropes was greatly against the cavalry, who had none, and was soon apparent on their animals. They took their horses out to graze for two or three hours in the evening after they came into camp from a hard day's march, then tied them up to a rope stretched from one wagon wheel to another for the night; this was all they got until next evening. I had lariats for all my horses, and they were all the time in a serviceable condition. September 13, marched to Republican River and camped just below the mouth of Medicine Lake Creek. Captain Murphy, of Seventh Iowa Cavalry, was ordered out from this point with his command on scout. September 14, moved camp to Medicine Lake Creek. It is a stream about ten yards wide, with about four feet depth; the banks high, rocky, and precipitous; good fish in this river. Laid over here until the 14th, until Captain Murphy's command joined us, and to give the horses rest. Captain Murphy joined us 14th with his command; saw no Indians on his scout. September 15, started on march very early this morning; had marched about ten miles when the scouts came charging back, and reported Indians in our front. The general ordered a charge, but as soon as we came in sight of the sup-

posed Indians they turned out to be an independent company of Colorado rangers, hunting Indians like ourselves. September 16, camped on Medicine Lake. This is a favorite place for Indians to winter their stock. We saw a great many cottonwood trees that had been cut down by the Indians, the bark of the small limbs being eaten by their ponies when the grass is covered with snow. The lake is small, with high hills around it. The stream that runs from the lake runs in a southeast direction, until it empties itself into the Republican. There is good wood, grass, and water at the lake, and all along the stream. September 17, marched to Fort Cottonwood, Nebr. Ter.; arrived at that post about 10 p. m. The country to the back of Cottonwood is barren. Remained here until September 19. Marched at sundown up the river. I was taken sick and did not accompany the command. September 20, remained at Cottonwood sick. A party of eight soldiers was sent out to-day to look for plums for sick in hospital; while on this duty they were surprised by a party of Indians sixty to seventy in number; four of them were killed, and their bodies found next day mangled in a horrible manner; the remainder made their way back to camp. This occurred about three miles from camp, and the men belonged to the Seventh Iowa. The commanding officer sent out a company in wagons to follow their trail until the next day, but the country became so broken they had to return, unable to proceed; they were unsuccessful. If they had been mounted they would certainly have overtaken them. This company found three ponies dead where the soldiers encountered the Indians the day previous, and it is almost certain some of the Indians were killed. General Mitchell returned with his command to Cottonwood September 26. The artillery was left at Cottonwood; I took charge, and remained with the same; and had the horses all reshod. A great many reports reach us of depredations committed by the Indians. Troops are stationed all along the line from Plum Creek to Julesburg, at distances of fifteen miles apart, chiefly to escort the mail. October 12, received orders from Colonel Livingston, commanding Sub-District of Nebraska, to turn over the guns and equipments in my possession to the commanding officer at Fort Cottonwood, and to report with my detachment to my company headquarters, Fort Leavenworth, and started at 4 o'clock that evening, and reached Gillman's Ranch, fifteen miles east of Cottonwood, where we encamped for the night. October 13, met the coach about 10 a. m. Were told by the passengers that the Indians attacked them the evening previous about sundown, wounding one soldier and one civilian passenger; that afternoon saw an Indian standing on a hill, and in about ten minutes after we first observed him about fifty or sixty Indians came charging out of the hill toward us. I immediately ordered the wagons to halt, brought the men into line, nineteen in number, when the Indians, seeing our force, halted for about five minutes, and then charged back to the hills. There were but seven revolvers amongst the whole party, and without other arms we retired to an old stable on the road and quite near to us. Here remained all night ready to defend ourselves if attacked. About 10 o'clock that night four soldiers of the First Nebraska Veteran Volunteer Cavalry came galloping down the road, and reported that the Indians had attacked a detachment of their company who were in the hills on scout after Indians, and advised us to keep a strict watch and be ready, as there was great danger. The soldiers were on their way to Plum Creek for re-enforcements. We passed the night without any attack, and on October 14 reached Plum Creek, and found all the troops out after the Indians, with one piece of artillery. October 15, reached Fort Kearny and remained there until the 20th. Here we drew mus-

kets and ammunition sufficient for our protection and defense, and started for Fort Leavenworth on the 20th. Found all the ranches on the Little Blue burned, and to the best of my opinion the owners of these ranches are with the Indians. There was plenty of wood and water on my route between Kearny and Fort Leavenworth. Made the trip in eight days and a half, arriving at the fort on the evening of the 28th of October, 1864.

In my judgment the best time and manner to hunt Indians is to start about the middle of May, leave all wagons behind, take mules and pack them; a mule will carry from 250 to 300 pounds; then they can go over the same ground that the Indians do, get on their trail and follow it up until they are caught. In the summer of 1860 four companies of the Fourth [First] U. S. Cavalry, commanded by Major Sedgwick, started from Fort Riley, Kans., after Kiowas, but could not overtake the Indians on account of their being encumbered with wagons; so they left their wagons at Fort Larned and started with pack-mules. The result was that the Indians were overtaken in twenty-five days on the headwaters of the Smoky Hill River, and gave them a severe thrashing.

As to the utility of artillery my opinion is not favorable. The Indians fight so scattered and are so seldom found in solid bodies, that artillery cannot be effective. The least possible incumbrance is necessary to rapid movements; and the arrangements which facilitate such movements will most nearly approach success.

The country through which we passed this summer has a great sameness. This country has a greater altitude than here, and in the highlands is comparatively barren. No grass, wood, or water is to be found of any consequence, except on the creek bottoms, and back from there nothing grows but buffalo grass. The land is also very broken, with deep ravines leading into the streams; and in traveling through the country it is necessary to take one of the ridges to get to the streams. The expedition, although not encountering Indians in numbers, nor accomplishing any great defeat or startling surprises, is not without its effect. The expedition itself will show the determination of the Government to punish them for thieving and murder. And our movements, although rapid, failing to discover them, show how much they were in fear of us, as the country through which we passed was almost cleared of them; they receded as we advanced, and, on the whole, the expedition will have a moral and I trust a lasting influence.

I have the honor to be, captain, your obedient servant,

THOS. FLANAGAN,

1st Lieut. Co. M, 16th Kans. Vol. Cav., Comdg. Detach. of Post Arty.

Capt. D. J. CRAIGIE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Dist. of North Kansas.

AUGUST 12, 1864.—Affair in the San Andres Mountains, N. Mex.

Report of Capt. Henry A. Greene, First California Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS FORT MCRAE,

District of Fort Craig, N. Mex., August 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that pursuant to information received from you by special express, dated 11th instant, I mounted one officer and fifteen men and proceeded in search of the Indians who had been committing depredations. Other parties sent from this post at the same time scoured the Jornada to San Diego Crossing. Pro-

ceeding with my party I took an easterly direction toward the San Andres Mountains. About thirty-five miles from the post I found the trail of the Indians apparently two days' old. Proceeding on this trail I overtook the Indians and stock shortly after sundown on the 12th instant. Taking advantage of the darkness the Indians made their escape. They had probably seen us coming from a distance. They left in our hands some 5,000 head of sheep, 3 burros, and 1 horse. I saw signs of a number of mules having passed one or two days previously. I returned to this post on the 13th instant. I am informed by the owner of the captured stock that it was captured from him some thirteen days previously. Had timely notice been given I have no doubt but what the mules would have been recovered and the Indians chastised. I am patrolling the road to San Diego Crossing and assure you that Indians with stock cannot pass me unmolested.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. A. GREENE,
Captain, First Infty. California Vols., Commanding Post

Lieut. Col. C. E. BENNETT,
First Cav. Cal. Vols., Comdg. Dist. of Fort Craig, N. Mex.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF FORT CRAIG,
August 15, 1864.

On the night of the 11th at Paraje I learned of this Indian attack. I immediately sent an order to Major Greene to take his departure with his command in pursuit of the depredators. The express left Paraje at 10 p. m. Before daylight the next morning Major Greene and command were in pursuit of these Indians. As usual with Major Greene he was successful. His promptness and energy entitle him and his command to great praise.

Respectfully,

C. E. BENNETT,
Lieut. Col. First Cavalry California Vols., Commanding.

AUGUST 12–16, 1864.—Scout on the Fort Union road, near Fort Garland, Colo. Ter.

Report of Capt. Charles Kerber, First Colorado Cavalry.

FORT GARLAND, COLO. TER., *August 22, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I started from this post on the 12th instant with four men of my squadron, under the guidance of Thomas Thagan, to intercept a party of guerrillas hunted by Lieutenant Sharp and Marshall Hunt. I struck from here for the head of the Cucharas, and followed that river down to the Fort Union road, looking for traces, but without result. The first day I traveled sixty-five miles. On the 13th I followed along the Fort Union road to the Apishapa, then struck northeast to Captain Craig's ranch, on the Huerfano; traveled forty-two miles. On the 14th I marched up the Huerfano to the Fort Union route and found that two guerrillas had been at the ranch of a Frenchman living on the crossing about two hours before I arrived there. Both guerrillas, one of them a tall man and the other a middle-sized man, had no hats, but bought two hats, pants, boots, &c., also a half of a hog there. They said that they had nothing to eat for the last two days. It was about 3 p. m. when I arrived at the ranch. I had trav-

eled already thirty miles. I took up the trace of those men, but it took Thomas Thagan a long time to trace these fellows out in the bushes, but at an hour before sunset we got on the prairie; then we galloped for about fifteen miles on their trace across the prairie, but they reached the Cedars before we arrived there, as it was night. I camped fifteen miles above the Union road-crossing of the Cucharas without fire and without unsaddling. On the 15th I started five miles back on my trail to take up the trace of the Texans again, and found that we camped that night about a mile apart. The guerrillas camped under a rock upon a high hill, and then they followed along the rocky reach up the Cucharas. We had to lead our horses most of the time, and the tracing was very difficult amongst those rocks. Once, though, we have been so close to them that we heard them call each other, and we had all our arms ready to shoot when they disappeared again amongst those piñons and rocks. Here Thagan lost their trace altogether. I had to give up the chase for that day because we had had nothing to eat from the time we left Craig's ranch. I struck Colonel Francisco's ranch, where we got coffee and bread. On that evening I found out that two Americans were seen half way between Cucharas and Huerfano, sailing for the mountains in a great hurry. On the 16th I gave Thomas Thagan three men and I took one with me and took up the chase again. We found the trace, but those scoundrels took the highest and most rocky mountains I ever traveled over, and I had to give up the chase again. On that evening I returned to this post. The following day I started out a fresh party, but with still less success.

In those few days I traveled over 220 miles, with two days' rations in our saddle-bags, and very bad forage for our horses. If I was not so happy as to catch those scoundrels, so have I, though, the consolation that I made them run for their lives.

Finally, I must request to be supplied so soon as possible with carbine ammunition and some few thousand of percussion caps. My requisitions are sent in long ago, but up to this date not filled.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your most obedient,

CHARLES KERBER,
Captain, First Cavalry of Colorado.

Capt. J. C. ANDERSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Denver.

AUGUST 12–16, 1864.—Operations in Ray and Carroll Counties, Mo., with skirmish (12th) at Fredericksburg.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

No. 2.—Col. Edwin C. Catherwood, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 3.—Maj. John Grimes, Fifty-first Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

No. 4.—Lieut. Isaac N. Henry, Forty-fourth Missouri Infantry.

No. 1.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

SAINT JOSEPH, MO., *August 13, 1864.*

Bill Anderson's guerrillas, numbering about 100, attacked Captain Colley's company of Ray County Militia at Fredericksburg, Ray

County, last night. A desperate conflict ensued, in which several of the guerrillas and Captain Colley and 4 of his men were killed. The Sixth [Missouri] Cavalry Veterans are pursuing Anderson, who is reported between Knoxville and Kingston this p. m. I am concentrating force at Hamilton to join in the hunt.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SAINT JOSEPH, *August 23, 1864.*

I have the honor to report successful expeditions against the guerrillas of this district. Detachments of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia, First Iowa Cavalry Volunteers, and Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia Veterans, aided by militia on duty in the river counties, have during the past week vigorously pursued and fought the guerrillas under Perkins, Holtzclaw, Cy. Gordon, Taylor, and other guerrilla chieftains. Thirty-five bushwhackers have been killed. We have lost 2 men killed and 8 wounded. Our parties have taken no prisoners, and are still in the chase.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Saint Louis.

No. 2.

Reports of Col. Edwin C. Catherwood, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

LIBERTY, *August 13, 1864.*

Captain Colley with about twenty Ray County Militia was attacked last night at Fredericksburg by Bill Anderson with seventy men. Captain Colley and 4 of his men were killed. I have several squads after them. They will not fight my men if they can possibly get off. My horses are terribly run down. I do not want to press horses without positive orders.

E. C. CATHERWOOD,
Colonel, Commanding.

General FISK.

HEADQUARTERS TROOPS IN THE FIELD,
Liberty, Mo., August 17, 1864.

GENERAL: Since my telegram of the 13th instant nothing of note has transpired. I returned yesterday from a chase after Bill Anderson and his gang. We followed nearly to the Carroll line, and as there were some 200 Ray County militia in close pursuit and far ahead of me, and getting farther every hour, I sent dispatch to the commanding officer to pursue them and returned. My stock is entirely worn down, having been on the go ever since we came, and were in very poor condition when we received them at Saint Louis.

This section of the country is entirely free from bushwhackers. I have not heard of the presence of one for four days.

I called in all the citizens of the county and swore them into the service under General Orders, No. 107, and have sent them to their homes to act as scouts and informants. If you desire it I can send 100 men into Carroll County to clean it out. They killed quite a number of the Enrolled Missouri Militia in Ray County, but invariably on the approach of any of my men would run. Being so very much better mounted than I am, they generally escaped.

I am informed that Captain Taylor is positively dead. I have his horse and equipments. We have also captured some of the horses, arms, and equipments lost by the Colorado men while here.

I have positive information that Thrailkill is very dangerously wounded—shot in the neck. A Union lady dressed his wound on Friday night last. There are several of them wounded and hidden through the county. Some have been taken to Platte. I think Thrailkill is in Platte. He was taken north and west of here the night mentioned.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. C. CATHERWOOD,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri.

No. 3.

Reports of Maj. John Grimes, Fifty-first Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Mo., August 14, 1864.

GENERAL: Immediately upon assuming command I sent Capt. M. T. Real with part of Company B, Fifty-first Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, to take up a position at Pleasant View, Ray County, Mo., and Capt. Patten Colley, with Company E, Fifty-first Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, to take up a position at Fredericksburg, in Ray County, instructing them to co-operate with each other and to keep the country bordering upon the line between Ray and Clay thoroughly scoured. On the 12th instant Captain Colley was informed by his pickets that a body of bushwhackers were in the vicinity of his camp. He immediately started out in pursuit with a scout of twenty men. About four miles south of Fredericksburg he was drawn into ambush, and after a desperate engagement, lasting thirty minutes, his command was overpowered and dispersed. Captain Colley and 4 of his men were killed; the rest of his men arrived in camp the next day. Believing that the enemy would make an effort to pass through the county, I immediately sent a messenger to Lieutenant Baker, at Knoxville, who had under his command a part of Company B, Fifty-first Regiment, and a part of Company C, Fourth Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, under command of Lieutenant McKown, and ordered him to move down the Knoxville road toward Richmond and attack the enemy wherever found, or form a junction with Capt. C. Tiffin, whom I sent immediately on the morning of the 13th instant with parts of Company C, Fourth Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, and Company F, Fifty-first Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, under command of Lieutenant Rolston, to a point six miles northwest of Richmond, to follow upon the trail of the enemy, and, if possible, drive them in the direction of Lieutenant Baker's command. The skirmish near Fredericksburg took place at 5 p. m. on the 12th instant. At 10 a. m. the next day the enemy passed six miles northwest

of Richmond. At thirty minutes past 10 a. m. they crossed the Knoxville road nine miles north of Richmond, going east, halting but a few minutes at 12 m. northeast of Richmond, and then proceeding in a southeastern direction; arrived at Moberly's Landing, in Carroll County, at 10 p. m., traveling forty miles during the day. Captain Tiffin proceeded in pursuit with all possible dispatch and formed a junction with Lieutenant Baker at John Garner's, on the Knoxville road, nine miles north of Richmond. I have received no official dispatch from Captain Tiffin, but am informed through other sources that he was in five miles of the enemy on the morning of the 14th instant, and in hot pursuit. The enemy in passing through the county murdered three soldiers—one returning from his home to Richmond, and two bearing a dispatch to Lieutenant Baker—and one citizen, burnt one house, stole a number of horses, and committed a number of other depredations. The enemy were under the command of Captain Anderson, and numbered between 90 and 100 men. They are reported to have lost 4 men in the skirmish near Fredericksburg.

The loss of Captain Colley is much to be deplored; he was a brave and energetic officer and has contributed greatly both as a citizen and a soldier to the furtherance of the Union cause in our county.

When the scout returns I will report the result.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN GRIMES,
Major, Comdg. Fifty-first Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Brig. Gen. CLINTON B. FISK.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Mo., August 18, 1864.

On the evening of the 16th instant the scout in pursuit of the band of bushwhackers under the command of the notorious Anderson, and referred to in my first report, returned to camp at Richmond. Captain Tiffin, after leaving Moberly's Landing on the morning of the 14th instant, continued the pursuit as rapidly as his jaded horses and exhausted men would admit of. The Carroll County militia united their forces with his, swelling his command to about 250 men. On Sunday, the 14th instant, about 12 o'clock, he came up with the enemy on the east side of Wakenda Prairie, where they had taken up a position in a dense body of timber and undergrowth. After a desperate engagement, lasting about thirty minutes, the enemy were driven from the ground and continued their retreat to Grand River, which they crossed at Rocky Ford. Our loss was 4 killed and 6 wounded. The loss of the enemy was much greater. There is every reason to believe that their leader, Anderson, is either dead or mortally wounded.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN GRIMES,
Major, Commanding, &c.

General C. B. FISK,
Commanding, &c.

No. 4.

Report of Lieut. Isaac N. Henry, Forty-fourth Missouri Infantry.

HAMILTON, MO., *August 14, 1864.*

DEAR SIR: I have just returned from a scout after a band of guerrillas in Ray County. You have no doubt had fabulous dispatches

from various persons in regard to said guerrillas, and by persons, too, who have remained at some distant post from them. Now, sir, I was after them, saw their tracks, and the victims of their butcheries, and therefore I will give you nothing but facts; hence I proceed: On last Friday Capt. P. Colley, of the Ray County Enrolled Missouri Militia, and about twenty of his men was attacked by 130 guerrillas under Anderson, Chestnut, and Taylor, at Fredericksburg, in Ray County, which resulted in the killing of Capt. P. Colley and 4 of his men, and the wounding of several more. Colley was one of the best captains in the Enrolled Missouri Militia of Ray County. The guerrillas lost 6 killed and several wounded, when Colley's men were overpowered and had to retreat to Richmond for safety, &c. The guerrillas then left Fredericksburg in a northeasterly direction, crossing the State road leading from Hamilton to Richmond, about four miles south of Knoxville, where they captured two militiamen, viz, Samuel Forseen and Daniel Vansant, who were bearing dispatches to Richmond to Copperhead Major Grimes, commanding Ray County Militia. They killed both of these men, cutting Forseen's throat from ear to ear and then scalped him. They also killed James Maupin, a citizen militiaman; they shot him in his wagon. They robbed several citizens, stole a good many horses in their course, and then struck off in a southeasterly course, crossing East [Fork of] Crooked River at Keal's Mills, about two miles and a half south of Millville, Ray County, Mo.; thence to Shaw's Shop and on in the direction of the Missouri River, at the mouth of the Wakenda or Shanghai, town in Carroll County. They passed Shaw's Shop on Saturday (yesterday) about 2 p. m., where Captain Tiffin and Lieutenant Baker, with a little over 100 men, were about two hours behind them; since when I have not heard anything reliable from them. On Saturday (yesterday) there was a public meeting in Kingston to encourage recruiting for the twelve months' service. When the report of the above guerrillas was reported Captain Fortune had the greater portion of his company in town and with the citizens present we were able to raise about eighty men. Well, we all got on the march after said guerrillas. I was put in the command of the advance. I started in pursuit of said guerrillas and marched about eight miles, when, lo! I found I had only three men besides myself on said scout, Fortune having marched about four miles, when he returned to town (Kingston) and has there remained ever since. I went ahead with my three men until I ascertained all of the foregoing facts, &c.

General, would it not be a good idea to issue an order enjoining all officers commanding troops when in the pursuit of guerrillas to follow them to the death, and in case an officer stopped pursuing them before catching them dismiss him from the service, and I assure you the guerrillas would soon be driven out of our country. Give me command of 250 good men and I will kill more guerrillas than all the militia in four counties now do.

Yours, &c.,

I. N. HENRY,
Lieutenant.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK,
Commanding North Missouri, Saint Joseph, Mo.

P. S.—One hundred and thirty guerrillas are all that is north of the Missouri River in Ray and Carroll Counties.

GENERAL: What does it mean, dismissing good Union officers and putting in Copperheads? For instance, removing as good a man as

Col. A. J. Barr, and putting in his place a damned Copperhead, John Grimes. This change displeases every truly loyal man in the country. Grimes was foreman on the grand jury that indicted me for killing a guerrilla at Richmond. Do you remember?

AUGUST 13-22, 1864.—Operations in La Fayette, Saline, and Howard Counties, Mo., with skirmishes.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 2.—Lieut. Col. Bazel F. Lazear, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 3.—Maj. George W. Kelly, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 4.—Capt. Ezra W. Kingsbury, Second Colorado Cavalry.

No. 1.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, Mo., August 19, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that on the 13th instant Captain Meredith, commanding Company H, First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, succeeded in overtaking a gang of bushwhackers in the eastern part of Saline County, killed 1 guerrilla and captured 7 horses. No casualties on our side. Lieutenant-Colonel Lazear, First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, commanding in the field in Saline, represents that the people of that county fully realize their situation and are determined to rid the county of guerrillas. On the 15th instant a detachment of Company C, Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, under the command of Sergt. I. E. Wood, by moving through the brush dismounted, surprised and charged a gang of six bushwhackers, wounded 2 of the gang and captured 6 horses. Maj. G. W. Kelly, Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, commanding at Chapel Hill, reports several bands, numbering from six to twelve, having recently made their appearance south and east of that station, and that Quantrill, Todd, and Poole, with their respective bands, are reported to be some twelve or fifteen miles east of that place. Such measures have been taken as will, I have no doubt, succeed in breaking up and scattering this force, if the report should prove true.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of the Missouri, Saint Louis, Mo.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, Mo., August 23, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that on the 20th instant Lieutenant-Colonel La-

zear, First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, commanding in the field, surprised a gang, numbering from forty to sixty guerrillas, in the vicinity of Dover, La Fayette County, killed 3 guerrillas and captured 4 horses, also a small rebel flag. Maj. Henry Suess, chief of cavalry, commanding steamer Fanny Ogden, reports that Thornton, Thrailkill, Yeager, Todd, Campbell, and Taylor held a consultation in Greenton Valley, La Fayette County, a week since, and on his return from this meeting Taylor was killed by the militia near Independence. Major Suess also reports that on the 19th instant a detachment of his command had a skirmish with a band of guerrillas southwest of Wellington, in which they mortally wounded 2 guerrillas, killed 1 horse, and captured one set of horse equipments. I would further respectfully state that the block-house now being built at La Mine bridge is being pushed to completion as rapidly as possible.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of the Missouri, Saint Louis, Mo.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, Mo., August 24, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that on the 16th instant Capt. Joseph Parke, commanding at Boonville, crossed to the north side of the river with his command, Company E, Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and scouted the country in that vicinity for two days, during which time he encountered several small bands of guerrillas; wounded 1 guerrilla, and captured 3 horses, 3 double-barreled shotguns, and 3 revolvers. On the 22d instant a detachment of the First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Lazear, encountered a small party of guerrillas on Davis' Creek, La Fayette County; shot 3 from their horses, supposed to be mortally wounded, and captured 3 horses. No casualties on our side in either of the above skirmishes.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of the Missouri, Saint Louis, Mo.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, August 29, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that on the 22d instant a detachment of the First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, surprised a small band of guerrillas on the Tabo, La Fayette County, severely wounded 1 guerrilla and captured 6 horses. Lieutenant-Colonel Lazear reports there are but very few guerrillas at present in La Fayette or Saline Counties, and that he has reason to believe that the majority of them have gone south. The notorious guerrilla Poole, having boasted that he would neither allow the stage nor telegraph to remain in operation on the Lexington and

Warrensburg route, Colonel Lazear has ordered the arrest of a number of Poole's friends, intending to hold them as hostages for the security of the stage and telegraph line.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of the Missouri, Saint Louis, Mo.

No. 2.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Bazel F. Lazear, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. SECOND SUB-DIST., DIST. OF CENTRAL MISSOURI.
In the Field, August 16, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that since my report of the 10th instant I have kept my command continually on the move, scouting the eastern portion of Saline County. There have been several parties of guerrillas reported, but upon investigation they turned out to be false, or but very small squads of from two to five men. Captain Meredith, in command of Company H, First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, on the 13th, struck a trail and followed them to their camp. There were seven in camp. He killed 1 and captured 7 horses, and also on the same scout found five horses that Todd had left at the time of his raid on Arrow Rock. The county is at this time very quiet. Occasionally hear of a horse being stolen. No depredations are being committed upon Union men. The people seem to fully realize their situation, and say they are determined to rid the county of guerrillas. I will commence a general move in the morning, and unless some force prevents it I will make a rapid move as far as the western part of La Fayette County, moving as rapidly as I can to thoroughly scout the northern portion of Saline and La Fayette Counties. It would be well to notify Colonel Ford and Major Kelly of this move. My semi-weekly reports will hereafter be made on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and as much oftener as I have anything of importance to report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. LAZEAR,
Lieut. Col. First Cav. Missouri State Mil., Comdg. in the Field.

Capt. J. H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Warrensburg, Mo.

HDQRS. SECOND SUB-DIST., DIST. OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
In the Field, August 21, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that since my report of the 16th instant I have thoroughly scouted Saline County and can report that there are no guerrillas in that county. We only heard of five, and the citizens report to us that they have left the county, which I think is true; whether permanently or not I can't tell. I have left Captain Moore, Company

F, there to reconnoiter and keep me advised of any appearance of them there. Making a night march from near Miami night before last, I dropped in upon them (the guerrillas) in the vicinity of Dover yesterday morning; found quite a number of them in this vicinity, say from forty to sixty. We had two skirmishes, killing 3 and capturing 4 horses. Lieutenant Miller, Company A, returning from Lexington on the 19th, had a skirmish with a party of nine, capturing 4 horses, and we since learn wounded 2, one said to be mortally. We saw a party of twenty-two from Dover just at night, who from what I can learn went west up Tabo. I am having the county from Dover to Waverly thoroughly scouted again to-day, and unless they fall back east I will tomorrow morning scout up Tabo, Davis' Creek, and along the river, moving west, making Greenton Valley by Wednesday next at farthest. Owing to scarcity of feed and water it is a very hard time to scout, having often to go out of our line for feed and water, making delays in our movements. There are no persons here that we can rely upon for information but negroes. I forward a small rebel flag which was captured, or dropped rather, by a guerrilla in one of the skirmishes yesterday. Our loss so far none, and health of the command generally good, but a great many horses in bad fix.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. LAZEAR,
Lieut. Col. First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Commanding.

Capt. J. H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Warrensburg, Mo.

No. 3.

Report of Maj. George W. Kelly, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACH. FOURTH CAV. MISSOURI STATE MIL.,
Chapel Hill, La Fayette County, Mo., August 17, 1864.

COLONEL: I would respectfully report to you that on the morning of the 15th instant I sent Sergt. I. E. Wood, of Company C, Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, with fifteen privates of same company, on a scout southeast of this station. After scouting the country some ten miles in that direction, struck a trail of six guerrillas, followed them some two miles, and found that they had left the road and taken the brush; dismounted six of his men and sent them in the brush on the trail. After following it some half mile or more the six men surprised the six bushwhackers, charged on them, and succeeded in capturing 6 horses; two of the horses were shot in the skirmish and could not be brought in. The four horses I send in charge of sergeant. The brush being so thick the guerrillas made their escape, two of them wounded, one in the back and the other in the leg, leaving their hats behind. The guerrillas are making their appearance east and south of here in small bands, from six to twelve in a gang; from what I can learn, Quantrill, Todd, Poole, &c., with their bands, are in east of here some twelve or fifteen miles. I have two scouts out now, east and southeast of here.

Colonel, I would be glad if you would get the general commanding to send me Capt. Joe Parke, with Company E, Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia. I have but one commissioned officer here who is suit-

able to scout. There are several families in this country, bushwhackers' wives and daughters, who should be attended to. They give them all the information they want.

Very respectfully,

G. W. KELLY,
Major Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Col. GEORGE H. HALL,
Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Warrensburg, Mo.

No. 4.

Report of Capt. Ezra W. Kingsbury, Second Colorado Cavalry

INDEPENDENCE, MO., *August 18, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with instructions, I left here on the 13th of August at 9.30 a. m. with seventy-five men from Companies C, D, F, I, L, and M, Second Colorado Cavalry, and proceeded northeast on the Lexington road, and struck the Missouri River four miles south of Richfield; patrolled the river-bank and vicinity for a distance of about five miles above Richfield until near the mouth of Blue River, when, being near night, I proceeded to Young's farm, about four miles from Blue Mills, where encamped for the night, having traveled about thirty-five miles. While at this place learned that Fletch. Taylor, Thrailkill, and other bushwhackers, had been in that vicinity. On starting next morning at about 3 o'clock, scouting the country thoroughly in the vicinity of Six-Mile, learned that Taylor had procured a buggy and started for La Fayette County, being severely wounded. Struck the trail and followed it about fifteen miles, until near Bone Hill, when lost it, and after searching some time turned back on Lexington road for La Fayette County. Found numerous signs of small parties of bushwhackers, and finally reached the farm of one Ish, in La Fayette County, where, by means of passing as bushwhackers, learned from a boy, whom I took and compelled to go with me, that there was a body of about 100 men encamped in Big Bottom, about six miles from that place. I started for that point, but ascertained that Doctors Murphy and Regan, of Wellington, had amputated Taylor's arm the morning before, and wishing to secure Murphy started twenty-five men to Wellington to bring him, and proceeded south with the command two miles to Ewing's farm, where I found Murphy, who happened to be there; arrested him, and forage being plenty fed the horses. On examining Murphy found that he had reported the facts concerning Taylor to Lexington immediately after the amputation took place, but could learn nothing definite concerning his whereabouts. Before the detail sent to Wellington returned it was nearly night, and thence I moved south to the house of one Fishback, and camped for the night, having released Doctor Murphy. Traveled this day about fifty miles. Next morning started about sunrise and went in a southerly course to the Sni, striking it at the old mill-dam; thence proceeded in a west course to Gardiner's farm; struck from thence in the direction of Bone Hill and Judge Gray's farm, scouting thoroughly the brush in that vicinity; arrived at the house of one Bord, near the line of Jackson and La Fayette Counties. On examining him at first could get no information from him; said he had never seen but six bushwhackers; saw them the

evening before. Knew nothing of the whereabouts of any of them. I then made him go with us, and told him to guide us to their camp. At first he denied as before, but finally took us to the camp where Fletch. Taylor had his arm amputated, and had left there very recently, as the signs were fresh and new. Found bandages stained with blood, pillow, &c., but no man. Finding that Bord was only leading us through the brush in order to give the bushwhackers time to escape I gave him a little hanging, which immediately improved his knowledge of the country. He told me two bushwhackers had been at his house the evening before to see his daughter, and on our starting again he led us through the thickest kind of brush to four other camps, one of which had only been vacated that morning, judging by the forage scattered around and other fresh signs: the other three were older, but had been used during the course of the summer. Searched the brush thoroughly, but could find no one. Learned further from Bord that there were plenty of them in the country in small parties ranging from Big Bottom to Bone Hill. Having obtained what information from Bord I could, released him and struck west for Robinson's, in Jackson County; trailed fifteen to that place and followed the trail to eastern edge of Fire Prairie, where I started fifteen in a party and pursued them through the thick brush ten miles in a southerly course, when they scattered and I lost the trail: thence returned northwest, until I struck the eastern edge of Fire Prairie; thence west, and started another party of eight, but at too great a distance to do anything with them. Struck the trail of a large party and followed them four miles to an old bridge across a ravine, where I heard a gun, fired evidently as a signal for them to disperse, as the tracks scattered immediately, and I lost them. This vicinity is evidently full of small parties of them continually passing back and forth. After searching the brush I crossed Fire Prairie to the timber on the Blue, and scouted up the river till I reached Spring Branch Crossing; thence returned to this place, arriving here about 6 p. m., traveling that day about sixty-five miles.

E. W. KINGSBURY,
Captain, Second Colorado Cavalry, Commanding Scout.

Maj. J. NELSON SMITH,
Commanding Station, Independence, Mo.

AUGUST 15, 1864.—Skirmish at Dripping Spring, Mo.

Report of Capt. William Hebard, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Glasgow, Mo., September 1, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on Monday night, August 15, while in command of a small detachment from the post of this place, when encamped for the night near Dripping Spring, Boone County, Mo., my sentinels were attacked at 11 o'clock, 1 mortally wounded, a private named William Neutling, Company F, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, and Private J. H. Hall, Company F, severely. The attack was renewed next morning and continued several hours, with an overwhelming force but without any casualties. On Saturday, the 20th, near Rocheport, I met and attacked a force under the notorious bushwhacker William Anderson, defeating him gallantly and driving him

clear out of sight, and having the good fortune of reporting but 1 man wounded, and he is severely; his name is William Marvin, Company E.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM HEBARD,
Capt., Comdg. the Detach. 17th Ills. and Mo. State Militia.

Adjutant-General THOMAS,
War Department, Washington, D. C.

AUGUST 15–21, 1864.—Expedition from Paincourtville to Lake Natchez, La., with skirmish on Grand River.

Report of Col. Hasbrouck Davis, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.

NAPOLEONVILLE, *August 21, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that hearing reports from different quarters that the rebels were engaged in opening a road from the Grossetete in this direction, I sent out Capt. R. A. Howk, Company L, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, with twelve picked men from Companies L and I of that regiment, to ascertain if the reports had any foundation. The party left Paincourtville on Monday last at 4 p. m., crossed Grand Bayou; went thence to Bayou Goula; thence to Plaquemine; thence down the Plaquemine to Indian Village; thence to Grand River and down Grand River to near the head of Lake Natchez; but not being able to cross the swamps and get to Grand Bayou in that direction, Captain Howk was obliged to retrace his steps and return the way he went. On Grand River, near the Sorrel, he fell in with twenty-six men of Captain Ratcliff's company, under command of the captain, whom he reported chasing part of them over Grand River, with loss to the enemy of 1 killed and 1 wounded. People in the vicinity state that the company numbers about seventy men, located in that vicinity for bushwhacking. Captain Howk reports the roads in a very bad condition; that there is a tolerably good road direct from Indian Village to the head of Lake Natchez, but no practicable road from the Grand Bayou westerly to the lake, nor any way by which the lake can be reached from Grand Bayou nearer than by the Bayou Goula route. There is no truth in the rumors that new roads are being opened. The captain returned safely with all his command yesterday after an absence of five days.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. DAVIS,
Colonel Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, Commanding Post.

Capt. B. B. CAMPBELL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES OF NEW ORLEANS,
New Orleans, La., August 27, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

This seems to be an intricate country, and I am endeavoring to get a good topography of it. It has been thus far very little understood. None of the maps I have seen give anything of correct indication of the practicable roads. I would like to obtain the services of a Mr. Hien, who, I am told, is a good topographical engineer and on duty in the engineer department.

T. W. SHERMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

AUGUST 15–24, 1864.—Operations in Southwest Missouri and Northwestern Arkansas, with skirmishes at Carrollton, Ark. (15th), on Richland Creek, Ark. (16th), and at Mud Town, Ark. (24th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.—Lieut. Col. Albert W. Bishop, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

No. 1,

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *August 30, 1864.*

Lieutenant Halsey and eighteen men of Capt. G. W. Edy's company of Arkansas militia attacked Captain Wilson's company of guerrillas, fifty strong, at Carrollton, Ark., on the 15th instant, and killed Captain Wilson and 3 of his men. Our loss, 1 man mortally wounded. The subsistence and ordnance trains for Fayetteville were attacked at Mud Town on the 24th instant by a force of ninety-five guerrillas. Our loss, 2 men mortally wounded, Second Arkansas Cavalry; enemy's loss unknown. Captain Hughes, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, with a portion of First Arkansas Cavalry, attacked Lieutenant Smith, in command of guerrillas, 125 strong, on Richland Creek, in Arkansas, on the 16th instant. The enemy's loss was 4 killed and 9 wounded and about 50 horses and horse equipments left at Fayetteville. Our loss, 1 man wounded. I hear of no armed rebels now in the district.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Col. Albert W. Bishop, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., *August 17, 1864.*

COLONEL: In accordance with your order of the 15th instant I proceeded at 1 a. m. of the 16th in search of a band of bushwhackers, known as Tuck. Smith's company. My command moved out promptly, intending to enter the haunts of this gang eastward of Fayetteville as soon as it would be possible to track them. At daybreak we were on the disputed ground, thirteen miles from this place, and very soon thereafter discovering their signs our march was quickened. The advance guard in particular, under Lieutenant Clark, First Arkansas Cavalry, was on the alert, and at 7 a. m. dashed up to the house of Royal Williams, on Richland Creek, in front of which from ten to fifteen saddled horses were tied. Their riders were eating breakfast at the time and were so completely surprised that they abandoned their horses and took immediately to the woods in rear of the house, passing through an adjacent corn-field that partially concealed their movements. But pursuit was active by both the advance guard and the main body of our

forces, and before an escape could be effected two were killed and the party was scattered in every direction. All their horses and equipments were taken, and our men returning to the house finished the breakfast intended for the stampeders. From Williams' the command moved up Richland Creek and a mile distant encountered another squad, supposed to be commanded by Smith in person. Here a short fight took place with a portion of our main force, gallantly led by Major Galloway and Captain Worthington, First Arkansas Cavalry. For some minutes the bushwhackers stood firmly, partly concealed on a thickly wooded bluff, but a charge being ordered by the major they broke and fled over the hill. A mile farther on, near Phillips' Mill, another portion of the column, led by Lieutenant Riggs, Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, met a party of seven, which were quickly dispersed with a loss of one killed. We now proceeded up the creek in the direction of Huntsville in search of a convenient place for foraging, looking well meantime to our flanks and rear. Near Green Gibson's, four miles from Phillips' Mill, our rear was fired upon by what was afterward ascertained to be the advance guard of a force following us, when I ordered a pursuit, which was promptly undertaken by the rear guard, commanded by Captain Hughes, Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and so vigorously prosecuted that after an exciting chase of a mile or more nothing could be developed but flying bushwhackers. Farther pursuit was useless in the condition of our horses and I ordered a recall. It was now 11 a. m. and neither men nor animals had eaten but little since the night before. I halted at Gibson's, rested, fed, and foraged until p. m., when the column moved eastward, the main body of the bushwhackers being known to be in that direction. Between 2 and 3 p. m., when near Phillips' Mill, we met the train of the First Arkansas Cavalry and learned that it had been fired on near one Andy Smith's, and a horse killed. As this occurred on our route, I pushed forward rapidly, when about 4 p. m. our advance was again fired upon by a party reported to be advantageously posted on a bluff that commanded the highway. It now seemed that more serious fighting was to be done than any that had yet occurred, and I made dispositions accordingly, detaching a strong party under Major Galloway to attack in rear. But these pests of the hills would not stand, and when the brow of the hill was reached they were nowhere to be seen. In this affair Lieutenant Riggs was cut off, and for an hour our apprehensions for his safety were serious. We had no more fighting. The bushwhackers had evidently been surprised, and our movements were such as to prevent a concentration of their forces. At times the bullets rattled like hail through the woods, and if no harm was done our men shot less accurately than usual. Several of the bushwhackers are in fact reported killed, and at one place a wagon is known to have been used to carry off the wounded. We captured 25 horses and mules. From the best information that I could gather, I do not think Smith can rally exceeding 125 men, and generally I believe his command to be much smaller than this. He changes his camping-ground frequently. His men are fed in small squads at different houses, and his horses forage off the country. As a leader he is active and dangerous, and must be proceeded against with great caution, and though his command has been dispersed, and he has acknowledged himself whipped, his final defeat I am convinced is yet to come. I camped at McGuire's Store and returned this morning. Our loss is 2 wounded—1 accidentally, and neither seriously.

I am much indebted for the success of the scout to Major Galloway Captain Worthington, and Lieutenant Clark, First Arkansas Cavalry, and Captain Bivins, Independent Rangers. I desire also to make especial mention of Captain Hughes and Lieutenant Riggs, Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, both of them officers admirably qualified for the dangerous and difficult warfare of the woods. The men throughout behaved bravely and well.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, yours,

A. W. BISHOP,
Lieutenant-Colonel First Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding.

Col. M. LA RUE HARRISON,
First Arkansas Cavalry Volunteers.

AUGUST 16, 1864.—Skirmish at Columbia, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joseph B. Douglass, Missouri State Militia.

COLUMBIA, MO., *August 17, 1864.*

Our troops met Holtzclaw yesterday, ten miles northwest of this place, where a severe skirmish took place. We killed 4 of his command; wounded many more. Our men then fell back about five miles. Holtzclaw receiving stronger re-enforcements came up and attacked them, but was easily driven off. The rebels are concentrating a large force in this county, and [I] will need all the men you can spare. I have failed to get help from Major Leonard or the Seventeenth Illinois.

J. B. DOUGLASS,
Brigadier-General.

General FISK.

AUGUST 16, 1864.—Skirmish with Indians near Smoky Hill Crossing, Kans.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. James G. Blunt, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Lieut. Jacob Van Antwerp, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. James G. Blunt, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF UPPER ARKANSAS,
Fort Riley, Kans., August 18, 1864.

MAJOR: I am just in receipt of intelligence from Salina, that on the 16th instant seven men of Company H, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, en route to Smoky Hill Crossing, were attacked by a party of Indians estimated from 100 to 300. Four of the party were killed, the other three made their escape and came into Salina. Messenger with dispatches for Fort Larned was turned back. These dispatches were to direct the commanding officer at Fort Larned to concentrate his force as much as possible, and intercept a party of Indians moving south from the Fort Kearny and Denver road; probably it was some of the same party that attacked and killed the men of Company H, Seventh Iowa Cavalry,

on the 16th instant. I have written several communications to the general since the 10th instant, urging him if possible to send me more troops, and horses to mount the few I have. I have as yet received no response, and have just learned that the general is absent in Nebraska. Please inform me what I may rely upon in regard to troops and horses. I am entirely powerless to do anything more than to try and hold a few points on the mail route for want of force, and I am informed by Major Fillmore that the term of service of five companies of the First Colorado Cavalry, now on duty in this district, will expire by the 7th of September.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. G. BLUNT,
Major-General.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Kansas, Fort Leavenworth.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Jacob Van Antwerp, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Salina, August 17, 1864.

SIR: Six men left this place yesterday morning belonging to Company H, Seventh Iowa, for Fort Ellsworth. They got to Elm Creek about 4 p. m., when they were attacked by from 100 to 300 Indians, 4 of whom were killed, the other two got away. The messenger sent from here arrived at Woodward's ranch and returned with two men, coming in from the battle-field. I have just sent a detachment of ten men, under Lieutenant Booth, up the Republican, which took all the horses fit for duty, but I will send the dispatches through as soon as possible. Lieutenant Helliwell has not arrived here yet. As soon as he gets here I shall go out with all the available forces, as there is undoubtedly a large body of Indians between the Smoky Hill and Saline Rivers.

Yours, truly,

JACOB VAN ANTWERP,
First Lieutenant, Commanding Post.

Capt. HENRY BOOTH.

AUGUST 17, 1864.—Capture of the steamer Miller on the Arkansas River, near Pine Bluff, Ark.

Report of Capt. Stephen R. Harrington, Fifth Kansas Cavalry.

NORTH BANK ARKANSAS RIVER,
THIRTY MILES FROM PINE BLUFF,
August 18, 1864—5 a. m.

COLONEL: The steamer Annie Jacobs is on a bar at this place. The captain thinks he will get off this morning. The steamer Miller was captured and burned by the rebels about ten miles below here yesterday. I have 100 men and a howitzer and can defend the Jacobs if she needs it. Colonel Clayton learned night before last that there were five

rebel brigades under command of General Cabell camped on Big Creek at the crossing of the Warren and Pine Bluff road, about seventeen miles from Pine Bluff. The rebels that burned the Miller were upon the south side of the river.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. HARRINGTON,

Captain, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, and Acting Aide-de-Camp, &c.

Lieutenant-Colonel GREEN,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 18, 1864.—Skirmish at Benton, Ark.

Report of Capt. Miles Kehoe, First Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACHMENT THIRD BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION,

Benton, Ark., August 18, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on my arrival at Benton at 4.30 this p. m. I was fired on by a detachment of rebels, numbering about 100, which immediately retreated across the Saline. I succeeded in capturing 1 wounded man, who reported to me that a brigade of cavalry who occupied Benton had left two hours previous to my arrival, owing to information they had gained from a woman who had ridden to this place from Little Rock ahead of me, and also he reported to me that the rebel army was all about to move toward Little Rock. I have heard from reliable source that there is a large force to move in the direction of Monticello and Pine Bluff. The prisoner reports to me that there are two brigades of cavalry on the other side of the Saline from here, under command of Colonel Crawford, which were expected to cross the Saline to-morrow. My intention is to cross the Saline on his left flank in the direction of Hot Springs in the morning. I have fallen back two miles from Benton to a good position for the purpose of feeding my horses. Your order will reach me on the road in the direction of Princeton. I shall cross the Saline to-morrow, and if possible ascertain the position of the main force of the enemy.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant

M. KEHOE,

Capt., Comdg. Detach. Third Brig., First Div., 7th Army Corps.

AUGUST 19–24, 1864.—Scout on the Republican River, Kans.

Report of Lieut. William Booth, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,

Clay Centre, Kans., August 24, 1864.

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions from headquarters District of Upper Arkansas, I have the honor to make the following report:

In compliance to orders from Captain Booth I marched my detachment to this place. Arriving here I found that Captain Schooley had proceeded with the militia up the Republican River. Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon, of the Fifteenth Kansas Militia, with a detachment of

twelve men from the Fourteenth Kansas Militia, having arrived, I proceeded up the river and encamped on Peach Creek, ten miles from this point, this being August 19. August 20, broke camp at daylight, and after marching thirty-five miles camped for the night at Lake Sibley. August 21, moved out again at daylight, marching up the north side of the Republican twenty-five miles until I struck a large trail, which I supposed to be the trail made by the command under Brigadier-General Sherry, of the State milita. Following this about five miles I crossed the river and continued up on the north side of White Rock Creek about six miles, when the trail bearing to the north I crossed the creek and moved up the south side about three miles and camped, marching about forty miles this day. August 22, being in the Indian country, and knowing their habit of making a dash at or near daylight, I had the camp aroused at 3 a. m. Left camp at daylight; marched up the creek about fifteen miles, examining the opposite side (it being very hard to cross) with a spy-glass. I explored the creek up to the Big Bend, where it was said a large body of Indians were encamped with their stock, but found nothing. Striking a southeast course for the Republican, scouting Salt Marsh and its creeks, I arrived at Lake Sibley and camped for the night. August 23, divided the command and sent six men, under Lieutenant Pierce (militia), down the south side, and with my command came to Peach Creek on its north side; encamped for the night. August 24, arrived at these headquarters about 10 a. m. with stock very much reduced from want of forage and in bad shape for want of shoeing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM BOOTH,
Second Lieut. Company L, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry Vols.

Maj. Gen. J. G. BLUNT.
(Through Lieut. J. E. Tappan, aide-de-camp.)

AUGUST 21–27, 1864.—Expedition in Washington and Benton Counties, Ark., with skirmishes.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. M. La Rue Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).
No. 2.—Lieut. Col. Albert W. Bishop, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

No. 1.

Reports of Col. M. La Rue Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
Fayettville, Ark., August 24, 1864.

GENERAL: Captain Hughes, with his detachment, left here as part of a command of 300 men, Lieutenant-Colonel Bishop commanding, on Sunday night, 21st instant, to attack 400 rebel Indians and bushwhackers, under Adair, at Cane Hill, and expecting to return this way before going to Neosho. I learn by letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Bishop, in the field, that the rebels fled at his approach, and that no engagement could be provoked. Lieutenant-Colonel B. therefore marched directly north toward Cowskin Prairie, and I presume will leave

Captain H. at or near Neosho. On my return to this place I found the rebels in such numbers and so insolent in this vicinity that I did not deem it prudent to send Captain H. forward at once. I therefore detained him a few days, dealt a deadly blow to Tuck. Smith and company on the east, and then started the command directly westward. As Captain H.'s orders were not limited as regards time, I felt justified in this course, which I hope will meet your approval. I desire to express my thanks to you and through you to Captain H. for the service he has rendered. He, as well as Lieutenant Riggs, behaved with great gallantry in the action on Richland, and in their intercourse with my command have won the well deserved reputation of brave soldiers and true gentlemen. I learn from Woodring, operator at Fort Smith, that General Thayer at present will not attempt to keep up the telegraph line north. I desire especially that it be kept up between this place and Springfield, and shall use every exertion to accomplish it, though for the past ten days I have done nothing, owing to the great demand on me for men to scout the country east and west. I earnestly request that you will order about 200 cavalry to operate between Sugar Creek and Cross Hollows, both east and west of the telegraph road, and I will render them all the assistance needed in subsistence and ammunition, as well as additional force of troops. If I did not have so much work to do east, west, and south I would not ask this. I believe one month's campaign will make them tired of Bentonville, Cross Hollows, and War Eagle.

I remain, general, your most obedient servant,

M. LA RUE HARRISON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fayetteville, Ark., August 31, 1864.

GENERAL: Inclosed please find copy of Lieutenant-Colonel Bishop's report of expedition to Neosho. A blundering clerk pasted the sheets in form of a roll, and as it is too late to rewrite it, I have to cut them apart and do the best I can. Lieutenant George, Eighth Missouri State Militia, was killed by the bushwhackers at Osage, near Bentonville, on Monday morning. He was buried here by my command yesterday. Captain Akard has gone on to Fort Smith, having been re-enforced by seventy-five men of my command and the Kansas mail party, thirty strong. The rebels are getting more scarce west of us, but matters are still in statu quo on the east. I intend to commence a new dispensation for Cross Hollows and Mud Town in about a week. We are building a fine set of stables and using every precaution to preserve our stock. It is holding its own well. I desire very much to have you visit us as soon as you can make it convenient. Let me know as soon as you get any intelligence from Washington in regard to a change of boundaries or any other matters of importance. I inclose a letter* received to-day from the "brush," which shows the serpent is wounded by his much hissing. Such letters are received by me almost daily, although no notice is ever taken of them. It might interest the public if published *verbatim et literatum*. The disabling of mills causes

* Not found.

more writhing among bushwhackers than any other mode of attack; but they threaten to stay and fight me on boiled acorns. If your scouts report any movements of importance on the east of this please inform me.

I remain, general, your most obedient servant,

M. LA RUE HARRISON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brigadier-General SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Albert W. Bishop, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

NEOSHO, *August 27, 1864.*

GENERAL: A detachment of the First Arkansas Cavalry and Captain Hughes' command arrived here this noon, the whole under my general command. I left Fayetteville on the night of the 21st with 300 men mounted and dismounted, and one howitzer, fully expecting to have a fight somewhere in the vicinity of Cane Hill or Rhea's Mills, but the birds had mainly flown. At Cane Hill we ran on a squad of twenty-five or thirty, whom we very quickly dispersed. I soon afterward ascertained that Adair had gone south with his command, and Brown was reported to be temporarily out of the country. The next day I sent my dismounted men back to Fayetteville and commenced scouting the country thoroughly to this place. Captain Hughes will give you the particulars. Though we discovered no force of any consequence, there is still much work to be done in Northwestern Arkansas, and I respectfully request, in behalf of the command at Fayetteville, that Captain Hughes be sent south again as soon as possible with as much of a command as you can spare for him. He has done us very essential service. I move again to-morrow in the direction of Pineville and Bentonville.

Hoping that we shall soon be attached to your district, I remain, in haste,

Yours, very sincerely,

A. W. BISHOP.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. SANBORN,
Springfield, Mo.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., *August 31, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that in accordance with your order of the 19th instant I proceeded with a detachment of 300 men of the First Arkansas Cavalry and Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and one mountain howitzer to the vicinity of Cane Hill, Ark., to attack and pursue any rebel bands that I might be able to find in the western portion of Washington or Benton Counties. Leaving Fayetteville at 10 p. m. on the 21st, the next morning the command arrived at Cane Hill, where our extreme advance, led by Sergeant Miles, Company H, First Arkansas Cavalry, gallantly charged a party of twenty-five or thirty men seen hovering on the outskirts of the town. A stand was attempted, but our men pressed them so closely that they fled in confusion to the bushes. They proved from reliable subsequent inquiry to be a portion

of Watie's command. Learning that Adair and his company, whom I had expected to meet, had certainly gone south, and that Brown, if in the country at all, was north of me, I moved to Rhea's Mills and camped. On the morning of the 23d, deeming his assistance no longer necessary, I ordered Captain Pearson, commanding 100 dismounted men, to return to Fayetteville, Assistant Surgeon Tefft accompanying him. The orders from headquarters District of Southwest Missouri to Captain Hughes, commanding detachment Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, requiring him to proceed to Neosho, Mo., with such assistance as he could obtain from your command, and he being particularly desirous of arriving there in time to enable him to be at Springfield, Mo., to-day, to muster his command for pay, and transact business connected with the enlistment of a number of his men as veterans which could not elsewhere, or at any other time, be disposed of, I determined to thoroughly scout the country, proceeding ultimately to Neosho before returning to Fayetteville. With this view I moved westwardly to Cincinnati, distant ten miles, hearing meantime that Brown also had gone south; thence northeast by north, crossing Norwood Prairie to John Carter's farm, on Illinois Creek, in Benton County, when our advance ran on a party of three bushwhackers, dispersing them, wounding 1 and capturing 2 horses, a mule and wagon. The same day a flanking party, commanded by Captain King, First Arkansas Cavalry, discovered the retreat, near David Loveall's, six miles from Carter's, on the road to Fayetteville to Norwood Prairie, of a gang of bushwhackers apparently numbering from fifteen to twenty. A few feeding at the time escaped. Loveall himself, a notoriously bad man, was killed. Eight head of horses and 3 guns were here captured. That night I camped at Carter's, traveling from twenty-two to twenty-five miles during the day.

On the 24th I moved generally in a northwesterly direction, crossing Lindsey's Prairie, thence five miles northeasterly, going into camp on the headwaters of Flint Creek. During this day I kept out as usual a force on either flank, but developed no enemy save an occasional bushwhacker whose speed seemed to be the only good quality he possessed. Distance traveled, twenty miles during the day. On the 25th I moved northwardly across Spavinaw Creek, thence in a westerly direction down Honey Creek, camping on the latter immediately north of the Missouri line and six miles from the Seneca Nation. I had intended to destroy an important mill on Spavinaw, but a blunder on the part of my guide, who led the column several miles from its proper course, rendered it impracticable for me to do so at that time. This mill, known as Williams', affords sustenance to none but disloyal people, and should be disabled or destroyed at the earliest feasible moment. Our march on the 25th was from twenty to twenty-five miles. No enemy of moment was discovered. On the 26th we crossed Cowskin Prairie and river and proceeded thence northeasterly, moving up Buffalo Creek on the Neosho road and going into camp ten miles south of that place. Distance traveled, same substantially as on the 25th; no enemy discovered. On the 27th we moved to Neosho, arriving at noon. The same day Captain Hughes left with his command for Springfield. 28th, I moved with detachment First Arkansas Cavalry and the howitzer toward Fayetteville, passing through Pineville, Mo., and camping a mile and a half below that place. Here we ran some bushwhackers into the woods, and captured 2 horses with their equipments. A flouring mill in this locality I burned; none but rebels living in its vicinity. Distance traveled during the day, twenty-three miles. 29th, I moved in the direction of

Bentonville, Ark., arriving at that place at 1 p. m., disabling on the route Williams' and Walters' Mills, on Sugar Creek, the latter a large one, and apparently worked to its full capacity. Quite a number of rebel women were at this mill as we came up. Passing Bentonville I moved down Lick Creek, a direction, I believe, not often taken, and during the afternoon the command surprised and killed 2 bushwhackers, and a rebel spy and scout. The scout resisted to the last, fighting most bravely. Passes were found on his person from Brigadier-General Maxey, commanding District of Indian Territory, from headquarters Second Brigade, First Division, Army of Texas, and also from other minor commanders. That evening we camped seven miles from Bentonville on the waters of Osage Creek. 30th, line of march was taken up for Brown's Mills, on the Brush Creek fork of Illinois Creek. Disabling this mill, I then moved westwardly to Thomasburg's Mill on Barren Fork of Illinois Creek, disabling it also. I now moved directly to Fayetteville, arriving there about 4 p. m.

It was my constant object while out to pass through localities where bushwhackers were reported to range and be harbored, especially Brown's command. He, I am satisfied, is not at present in this section of the country, though his return, and perhaps speedy, is not at all improbable. North of the Boston Mountains, and west of this place, there are not in my judgment one-fourth of the rebel enemies of the Government, of whatever name or kind, that infested this portion of the district a month since. Forage, corn particularly, as far west as Spavinaw Creek, is much more abundant than I had supposed. There is scarcely a Union man to be found farming in the western portions of Benton and Washington Counties, and I would suggest that this forage be secured for our purposes, without any unnecessary delay. The rebels have been roused from their fancied security, and we must work quickly to secure the result of their labor. I captured in all 30 serviceable horses and mules, Captain Hughes being permitted to appropriate what was necessary to maintain the efficiency of his command. The mills destroyed or disabled were of very little or no service to Union people.

I am much indebted to the officers of the command for any success that may have attended the expedition.

A. W. BISHOP,
Lieutenant-Colonel First Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding.

Col. M. LA RUE HARRISON.

AUGUST 22–25, 1864.—Scout from Helena to Mount Vernon, Ark.

Report of Maj. Eagleton Carmichael, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY,
Helena, Ark., August 25, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully submit the following report of a scout under my command:

We left Helena on the 22d instant on board the steamers Dove and Homeyer; went up Saint Francis River; landed four miles above the mouth of the Anguille River and disembarked. Proceeded from landing to Hughes' farm; from there to Doctor Ward's, by way of Gill's; thence to Weatherly's, Dayle's, and Mrs. Roberts'; crossed lower mouth

of Cow Bayou, on to Mickey's; from there to Linden; from Linden to Madison, passing several places I do not remember the names of; from Madison to Mount Vernon, through large settlements, where I heard there was a detachment of rebel cavalry, but found none; from Mount Vernon to McDaniel's, where I remained a part of the night of the 23d; from McDaniel's we returned by a different route to the upper mouth of Cow Bayou. I divided my command in passing through most of the settlements where I could, so there was but very little of the country but what we scouted through. The information I received in the country was that Briscoe's and Coates' companies were ordered away on the 20th, but a few had been left behind to get the stragglers together and follow the companies. As to their having been pasturing any number of horses, I do not believe it, for I particulary inquired of both whites and negroes through the country and could learn nothing of them. While they were there they were scattered through the settlements in small squads, conscripting and getting what horses they could. We captured Lieut. J. M. Grigg, Company A, Dobbin's regiment; Private Thomas M. Short, same company, and Luther Drum, a conscript. We arrested W. F. Pruitt, N. Y. Gill, U. J. Howard, and P. B. Mickey. We also captured and seized 8 horses and 5 mules. The prisoners I turned over to the provost-marshal and the stock I turned over to the district quartermaster. We destroyed a large number of shotguns and rifles and burned McDaniel's Mill. I should have gone to Dick Anderson's, but could hear of no rebel soldiers in that direction, and it would have detained us nearly a day longer, and could not have reached the boats until the morning of the 25th without overworking our horses.

E. CARMICHAEL,
Major, Commanding Expedition.

Lieut. F. E. SNOW,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Eastern Arkansas.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN ARKANSAS,
Helena, August 25, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.
Major Carmichael is entitled to much credit for this scout.

WM. CROOKS,
Colonel Sixth Minnesota Infantry, Commanding District.

AUGUST 22–30, 1864.—Operations in La Fayette County, Mo.

Report of Capt. Melville U. Foster, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HOLDEN, MO., *August 31, 1864.*

I have the honor to report marches, scouts, &c., of my command:

August 22, took Lieutenant Pharis and thirty men of both companies and arrested the families of Durrett, Stoner, Cowarden, and Scott, for feeding bushwhackers; returned same day; traveled thirty miles. August 24, Lieutenants Pharis and Marr, with forty men of both companies, escorted prisoners to Warrensburg; returned next day; traveled

thirty miles. Same day Lieutenant Combs, with thirty-five men, escorted Paymaster Mears to Chapel Hill; traveled thirty miles. August 26, took thirty-five men of both companies, in obedience to telegram from district headquarters; proceeded to Big Creek to co-operate with Captain Queen, from Warrensburg; drove Walnut Creek; jumped three bushwhackers; drew blood, but got no one. August 27, met Captain Queen; proceeded up Big Creek; drove the brush on Panther Creek. Was told that a body of Confederates had passed to the westward recently; took the direction. On arriving at the residence of Mr. Tackett was told by him that Palmer, with 140 recruits for the Confederate army, had passed between Harrisonville and Pleasant Hill, and left his house early the morning of the 26th. Palmer thus being thirty-six hours ahead, and night at hand, rendering it utterly impossible to follow him till morning, thereby virtually giving him forty-eight hours the start of us, it was thought useless to follow. We therefore proceeded up Big Creek. August 28, proceeded to the mouth of Crawford's Fork of Big Creek, and divided the force, Captain Queen, with one-half, taking one side, while I, with the balance, took the other side. Near evening, with my squad, ran afoul of a gang of about fifteen bushwhackers within six miles of Chapel Hill; had a nice little chase of about three miles, completely scattering the gang, dismounting one man, capturing one horse, saddle, and bridle. August 29, again separated as before. Captain Queen saw and fired upon two bushwhackers. I flushed a gang of about ten or twelve in a thicket; wounded 2, but escaped in the brush. Captured 4 horses and equipments and 3 guns. Two of the horses were so badly wounded as to be unable to travel, and were left; the saddles of such inferior quality that I destroyed them on the ground. August 30, returned to camp, having traveled 115 miles. Besides this there was a daily patrol of twenty men to and from Pleasant Hill.

Very respectfully,

M. U. FOSTER,
Captain, Commanding.

Lieut. J. N. PENNOCK,
Adjt. 7th Regt. Cav. Mo. State Militia, Warrensburg, Mo.

AUGUST 23, 1864.—Affair at Webster, Mo.

Report of Maj. James Wilson, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

PILOT KNOB, MO., *August 25, 1864.*

I sent a squad to Cadet Station yesterday morning. Scouts are out continually scouring Saint Francois and Washington Counties. A band of fifty guerrillas entered Webster and plundered the place on the morning of the 23d, and returned in a southwesterly direction. Scouts have gone in that direction. I have men engaged in completing Fort Davidson. The work on the fort on Rock Mountain had been suspended when I came here. If you desire the work continued please inform me. An engineer, sent here by General Rosecrans to report, &c., reports that fort a nuisance.

JAMES WILSON,
Major, Commanding.

Brigadier-General EWING.

AUGUST 23–26, 1864.—Scout from Ozark, Mo., to Dubuque Crossing and Sugar Loaf Prairie.

Report of Capt. John C. Bailey, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HDQRS. DETACHMENT SECOND ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
Near Ozark, August 26, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that a scout of one commissioned officer and twenty men which left here on the morning of the 23d instant returned to-day. They scouted the country as far southeast as Dubuque, crossing the river and going ten miles farther down on Sugar Loaf Prairie. They report no force of the enemy moving this direction, and, from the best information could gain, Shelby was at Batesville with about 2,500 men, and the general impression is that he has been ordered south across the Arkansas River. His conscripts are deserting him faster than he can gather them up. One company of sixty-five which was gotten up south of here now number but twelve men, which is no doubt correct, since bushwhackers are quite numerous through a portion of the country which my scouts pass through. I am keeping a small scout at Forsyth and vicinity and between here and that point all the time. I sent a lieutenant and twenty men to Dubuque and vicinity to-day to be absent five days. I understand Captain Ball is going down into that county; if so, will not that relieve me from scouting there to some extent? If there are not some heavy rains soon will be obliged to move the detachment to where there is water, since it is so scarce here now that have to water most of my stock out of buckets. Am hauling forage ten miles, and getting scarce at that. Some sixteen head of our best horses are unserviceable, lame with the foot evil (a singular disease), and cannot account as to the cause. In some cases the hoof comes nearly off, and there appears to be no remedy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

JOHN C. BAILEY,
Captain, Comdg. Detachment Second Arkansas Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri, Springfield, Mo.

AUGUST 23–28, 1864.—Expedition from Cassville, Mo., to Fayetteville, Ark., and skirmish (24th) at Gerald Mountain, Ark.

Report of Capt. James L. Powell, Second Arkansas Cavalry.

CAMP PHELPS, MO., *August 29, 1864.*

COLONEL: I herewith transmit my report of the command which I was placed in charge of by Special Orders, No. 51, headquarters Post of Cassville, Cassville, Mo.

I obedience to instructions I proceeded with the train, leaving the Big Spring, near Cassville, on the morning of the 23d of August. I proceeded with caution to Little Sugar Creek, where I encamped without molestation. On the morning of the 24th I continued our move on the wire road. I moved forward until in about ten miles of Fayetteville, at what is called the Gerald Mountain. The rear guard was suddenly attacked by about twenty-five or thirty rebels, who were concealed

on our left. At the moment of the attack the rear guard gave way, and the rebels seeing this dashed upon the wagons, firing at teamsters and mules. Being at the head of the column myself, as soon as I heard the firing started to the rear, ordering all the infantry to form and protect the advance of the train, while I ordered the cavalry to follow me. I immediately made my way to the place of firing with what men I could hastily call upon. On arriving at the place of action I opened fire on some rebels who were shooting one of my wounded men. As soon as I commenced firing at the enemy they began to fall back. I followed them as far as I thought prudent on account of the train. The enemy drew off up a mountain to the east, whereupon I thought best to proceed to move on with the train. I proceeded to Fayetteville on the 24th. My loss was 1 man killed; 1 other man shot in four different parts of the body; one or two others slightly grazed with bullets. After remaining at Fayetteville two days I started to Cassville on the 27th instant, throwing out flankers on each side of the way. I had no further difficulty, and arrived at Cassville the 28th instant. I also lost in the fight 1 Government mule and 3 horses.

JAMES L. POWELL,
Captain Company F, Second Arkansas Cavalry.

AUGUST 23–29, 1864.—Expedition to Clinton, La., with skirmishes (25th) at Olive Branch and the Comite River.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Francis J. Herron, U. S. Army, commanding District of Baton Rouge and Port Hudson.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Elias S. Dennis, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

No. 3.—Col. Benjamin Dornblaser, Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, commanding First Brigade.

No. 4.—Itinerary of the Cavalry Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, commanded by Brig. Gen. Albert L. Lee, U. S. Army.

No. 5.—Maj. Bacon Montgomery, Sixth Missouri Cavalry.

No. 6.—Capt. William J. Evans, One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Infantry (mounted).

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Francis J. Herron, U. S. Army, commanding District of Baton Rouge and Port Hudson.

BATON ROUGE, *August 28, 1864.*
(Received 9.30 a. m.)

MAJOR: I returned last evening from Clinton, after driving Scott twenty miles from that place in the direction of Liberty. He made obstinate resistance to both columns for twelve miles from Clinton. Our loss is 6 killed and 23 wounded; among the latter are two of General Lee's staff officers, Captain McComas and Captain Pierce. The enemy's loss is 30 killed, including 1 field officer, and over 100 wounded, including several officers, one of whom, Captain Thompson, is on the road mortally wounded and probably dead ere this. We have also over 20 prisoners, including 1 officer, Captain Bradford, of Colonel Scott's staff. General Lee met the enemy at Redwood, seventeen miles from

this place, and had a sharp fight with them at midnight, driving them to the Comite River, where they used artillery freely, he dislodging them after several hours' work, pushing close to Clinton. I left Hudson with the infantry at 5 o'clock on the evening of the 25th. When five miles out a bridge fifty feet long gave way with the advance guard of cavalry on it, precipitating thirty men and horses into a bayou, and badly injuring six men and a number of horses. It required three hours hard labor to rebuild the bridge, and but for the unfortunate delay I could have reached Clinton at daylight without resistance, and thus have been completely in rear of the force watching Lee. A battery of four guns that had been at Tunica passed from Jackson to Clinton half an hour before I struck the Clinton road. A movement had been expected from Baton Rouge, but not from Port Hudson, and they were completely off guard in that direction. We destroyed their corn stored at Clinton and at several points east and north. General Lee followed Scott toward Liberty, but at latest advices Scott had left there and was moving in the direction of Osyka. I also had the Government workshop near Clinton destroyed. We brought ten or twelve bales of cotton and a number of head of cattle, also quite a number of negroes. I am much indebted to Generals Lee and Dennis for the energy displayed in pushing forward their commands. Will report in detail to-morrow.

Respectfully,

F. J. HERRON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Brig. Gen. Elias S. Dennis, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Morganza, La., September 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report for the information of the general commanding:

Pursuant to his instructions of the 23d of August, 1864, I embarked on steamers with about 3,000 men of my command, and proceeded down the river to Port Hudson, La.; reached that point at 5 a. m. August 24, and at 4 p. m., in compliance with orders from Major-General Herron, I took up my line of march for Clinton, La., and after marching all night arrived there at 2 p. m. August 25, meeting with but slight opposition from the enemy on the way. Remained in camp at Clinton until 4 p. m. August 26, then started on my return to Port Hudson. I met no enemy, but owing to the excessive heat did not reach that point until 8 a. m. August 28. Having to await the arrival of boats, we were detained here until 4 p. m., when I proceeded up the river to Morganza, La., reaching there without accident on the morning of August 29, 1864. Below please find list of casualties.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ELIAS S. DENNIS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. B. WILSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Forces, Morganza, La.

First Brigade: Eleventh Illinois Infantry, 3 men missing; Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, 2 men missing; Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, 1 man missing; Thirtieth Missouri Infantry, 2 men missing.

Second Brigade: Forty-seventh Indiana Infantry, 1 man missing; Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Infantry, 2 men missing; One hundred and twentieth Ohio Infantry, 2 men missing.

Cavalry: Second New York Cavalry, 2 men wounded; Fourth U. S. Cavalry, 1 man wounded.

Artillery: Twenty-sixth New York Light Artillery, 1 man wounded.

No. 3.

Report of Col. Benjamin Dornblaser, Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, commanding First Brigade.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., 19TH ARMY CORPS,
Morganza, La., August 29, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in compliance with orders, this brigade embarked on steamers on the night of the 23d instant and proceeded to Port Hudson, La., where it disembarked. On the evening of the 24th instant, at 5 p. m., the column moved out in the direction of Clinton, La., the First Brigade in advance, supplied with five days' rations and one ammunition wagon to each regiment. The command marched all night, only resting at intervals to enable the column to close up, and arrived at Clinton at noon of the 25th. Small scouting parties of the enemy only were encountered, who fled at our approach. The troops rested until 4 p. m. of the 26th, when the return march was commenced, arriving at Port Hudson on the morning of the 28th, and Morganza on the morning of the 29th. Port Hudson is distant twenty-five miles from here, and from Port Hudson to Clinton the same. The march was a very hard one, and the losses sustained by the brigade were caused principally by men becoming exhausted by the way and being captured by the enemy, who followed in our rear. The following are the losses of the brigade: Eleventh Illinois, 3 missing; Forty-sixth Illinois, 2 missing; Seventy-sixth Illinois, 1 missing; Thirtieth Missouri, 2 missing.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. DORNBLASER,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. W. E KUHN,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, 19th Army Corps.

No. 4.

*Itinerary of the Cavalry Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, commanded by Brig. Gen. Albert L. Lee.**

August 11.—The division was formed and General Lee announced as its commander in General Orders, No. 1, headquarters Department of

* From monthly return.

the Gulf, Office Chief of Cavalry. The Second Louisiana Cavalry was announced as belonging to First Brigade, but by order of Major-General Canby, commanding Military Division of West Mississippi, that regiment was consolidated with First Louisiana Cavalry and the men sent to the latter regiment, at Morganza, La. The Eleventh New York Cavalry during the month was stationed at points along the Mississippi River above and below a point opposite Donaldsonville, La., guarding the country.

The division, excepting the Eleventh New York Cavalry, moved out of Baton Rouge upon Clinton, La., on the 24th, to co-operate with an infantry force from Port Hudson, to strike the rebel forces under Colonel Scott. An accident delaying the infantry column, the rebels were not surrounded, as was designed. The cavalry met the enemy, about 1,800 strong, and drove him, after severe skirmishing, seven miles beyond Clinton, capturing 2 officers and 35 men.

August 27.—Returned to camp. The cavalry at other times during the month were engaged in picket and scouting duty.

No. 5.

Report of Maj. Bacon Montgomery, Sixth Missouri Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CAVALRY MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
Baton Rouge, La., August 28, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following as the part taken by my command during the late expedition to Clinton, La.:

At 2 p. m. August 24 my regiment was in line on the Clinton road in rear of the Second Louisiana Cavalry; passing the picket with fifty men of my regiment I took the advance and soon came upon a squad of the enemy who gradually fell back before [us]; they never returned our fire but raised the white flag. I halted the column, not wishing them to see our force, and advanced with Captain Jenkins and two men and met Captain Brown with three men. I asked for his communication; he said it would be forthcoming in a few minutes. In the meantime I had sent the two men back as messengers to Colonel Fonda. In a few minutes I received the order from you to send the men whom I had captured to the rear. The enemy instantly sprang into their saddles and started off rapidly, saying they would not be taken, but said they would await me a few hundred yards in advance. I rode back till I met Colonel Fonda, who told me to meet him and if he had any communication to receive it, if not to give him fifteen minutes to get [out of] our way. He said he wanted no longer time than that and dashed off. When the time was up we started at a gallop and pursued them two miles beyond Redwood bridge, where, finding it impossible to capture them, the heat being so excessive and the main column so far in our rear, I ordered a halt and rested until the remainder of the command closed up. Soon after dark we were again ordered forward. The enemy taking advantage of the darkness of the night and the favorable position in front, annoyed us frequently by firing on my advance; at one fire they wounded the sergeant who had charge of the advance and his horse also. At another time concealing themselves in the thick underbrush they permitted us to advance within ten or twenty feet of them, when they opened a rapid fire on us, killing 3 horses and severely wound-

ing 1 man, but their fire was returned with such vigor that they were compelled to abandon their horses, which were tied near the road. Near Comite bridge they fired on us, killing 1 man instantly. Here two companies of my regiment were sent to guard the roads in our rear. Soon after we crossed the river, having to swim a few feet. Two miles from the bridge we rested a few minutes, and under orders from the general commanding I assumed command of the advance, consisting of a detachment of the Fourth Wisconsin in addition to my regiment. We immediately charged them, keeping up a running fight until within one mile of the town, killing and capturing several, the men using their sabers after their carbines and revolvers had been discharged. Here the Fourth Wisconsin having been considerably scattered and very much fatigued, I moved the Sixth in their front, and in conjunction with about 100 of the One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Mounted Infantry on foot, I drove them within and beyond the limits of the town, their rear fleeing in confusion and disorder upon our entrance. On 28th we returned to this place as rear guard of the division, having lost 1 killed and 4 wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BACON MONTGOMERY,
Major, Commanding Sixth Cavalry Missouri Volunteers.

Capt. T. W. HURST,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 6.

Report of Capt. William J. Evans, One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Infantry (mounted).

HDQRS. 118TH REGT. ILLINOIS MOUNTED INFANTRY,
Baton Rouge, La., August 28, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders received from headquarters First Brigade this day, I have the honor to submit the following statement with regard to the part taken by the One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Mounted Infantry in the expedition to Clinton, La.:

When the regiment was formed on the Clinton road on the 24th instant the One hundred and eighteenth Illinois was third from the right under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Logan, who remained in command until the column arrived near Cypress Bayou, when he returned to camp sick, turning the command over to the undersigned, senior captain. After marching to Brushy Bayou, in compliance with orders, I sent Captain Shaw, Company G, forward with 100 men to the support of the advance, who continued with the advance three miles beyond Redwood, when he was ordered to dismount forty men and send in advance of the cavalry deployed under command of Lieut. E. B. Hamilton, and to report the remainder of his 100 men to the regiment. These forty men continued in the advance until arriving near Olive Branch, where they met the enemy and routed them after a short skirmish, in which Private Thomas E. Mix, Company B, was killed. They also captured 2 prisoners at this place. This occurred about 2 a. m. on the 25th instant. After crossing Olive Branch I sent forward fifty men, under command of Captains Rosenbrook and Robinson, to

relieve Lieutenant Hamilton. They continued on foot skirmishing with the enemy to within half a mile of the Comite River. During this skirmishing Corpl. William P. Rice, Company K, was slightly wounded in the foot, and in accordance with orders I dismounted the remainder of the regiment and went forward to their support. I arrived at the river at daybreak, where I found the enemy in force, who had partially destroyed the bridge to obstruct our passage. After sharp skirmishing until near 9 a. m. the enemy was dislodged. I then ordered the command to mount and effected a crossing by swimming the horses at the bridge. After the command crossed I was ordered by General Lee to report to Major Montgomery, with the regiment, who had command of the advance, keeping up a running fight until the enemy made a stand one mile this side of Clinton, when I was ordered to dismount 100 men and advance with them deployed, skirmishing with the enemy, dislodging him, and driving him through the city. While in Clinton the regiment was on provost duty, where we remained until 9 a. m. the 27th instant, when we took up our line of march, arriving at camp near Baton Rouge at 10.30 p. m. 27th instant.

The total casualties are 1 man killed, 1 man slightly wounded, and 3 horses from the extreme heat.

I take pleasure in saying both officers and men did their duty well.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

WM. J. EVANS,
Captain Company F, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. T. W. HURST,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, First Brigade.

AUGUST 24, 1864.—Skirmish on Gunter's Prairie, Ind. Ter.

Report of Maj. Gen. Samuel B. Maxey, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF INDIAN TERRITORY,
Fort Towson, C. N., September 3, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to state that I am in receipt of General Watie's official report, by which it appears that at daylight on August 24th ultimo he attacked a Federal camp on north side of Arkansas River, on Gunter's Prairie, about 350 infantry and about 70 cavalry, with a detachment of his command of about 500. He says:

> The result of this affair was 14 prisoners, about 20 killed, 150 mules and horses, and the burning of a large quantity of hay. I had several men wounded, 1 killed, and some horses killed—shot. The principal object was to burn the hay and capture the stock.

He says he did not intend to engage enemy with equal numbers, and that enemy was stronger than he anticipated.

Very respectfully, colonel, your obedient servant,

S. B. MAXEY,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c., Shreveport, La.

AUGUST 24, 1864.—Action at Ashley's and Jones' Stations, near Devall's Bluff, Ark.

REPORTS.*

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding the Department of Arkansas.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division.

No. 3.—Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade, Cavalry Division.

No. 4.—Lieut. Col. Gilbert Moyers, Third Michigan Cavalry.

No. 5.—Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding the Department of Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,
Little Rock, August 26, 1864.

GENERAL: On the 24th instant a large rebel force under Shelby made a raid upon the railroad between Devall's Bluff and Brownsville, capturing the guard, destroying the telegraph wire, and tearing up the track. They also burned a large quantity of hay and destroyed the machines for cutting and pressing. Shelby's force is reported 3,000 cavalry and six pieces of artillery. Before sufficient force could be assembled to capture them they were off. Our troops are still in pursuit. Our cavalry made them take to the woods. I have not learned particulars from Devall's Bluff. It is currently reported that the rebels have crossed a large force near Arkansas Post, for the purpose of joining Shelby and attacking Devall's Bluff and the railroad. Little Rock was to be attacked at the same time. Colonel Clayton, relying upon the reports of his reconnoitering parties, does not believe that any considerable force has crossed the Arkansas; he thinks that a large cavalry force under Price is now moving upon the south side of the Saline for the purpose of crossing the Arkansas above here and making a raid into Missouri. Price is reported to have 15,000 cavalry, including Marmaduke's division. I have been informed by everybody recently from the south—deserters, refugees, &c.—that Price has been put in command of the cavalry and John Magruder of the infantry that are to move against me. It is the general opinion that Price expects to go to Missouri, and his troops are said to be jubilant over the prospect. I have ordered the troops at Saint Charles to Devall's Bluff, and hope you will send me force enough to enable me to take the field and leave the depots secure. My troops are constantly being discharged by expiration of term of service. My instructions are to hold the line of the Arkansas. If my veterans are to be sent to some other department, and my force continues to diminish, I should prefer massing the whole command, taking the field with it, and leaving the safety of the posts to future consideration.

Very respectfully,

F. STEELE,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. E. R. S. CANBY,
Commanding Military Division of West Mississippi.

* See also Jackman's report, p. 671.

No. 2.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, Ark., August 25, 1864—1.30 p. m.

GENERAL: Yesterday morning I received information from a reliable source that the rebels had finished their pontoons over the Arkansas River above the post and that they were to cross day before yesterday; that their plan was to attack Little Rock, Devall's Bluff, and the railroad simultaneously. I wrote a dispatch containing this information for General Steele, but the telegraph line was down and has been so ever since. At 12.30 o'clock yesterday a messenger from Ashley's Station arrived stating that Shelby, with a force of 2,000, with artillery and a train, had attacked and captured that post, and that he had come in from the north. Ashley's Station is twelve miles, perhaps fifteen, from here on the railroad. There were about 150 troops there guarding the railroad and haymakers.

There was one station beyond and three this side, at each of which were two companies of the Fifty-fourth Illinois Veteran Volunteer Infantry. Subsequent information showed that Col. G. M. Mitchell, commanding the Fifty-fourth Illinois, had concentrated six companies at a station two miles this side of Ashley's and was resisting the enemy. I sent out from here the available force of three regiments of cavalry, under Colonel Geiger, numbering about 750, for observation at least, and to interpose assistance to Colonel Mitchell if possible. Geiger arrived promptly, but Mitchell had been taken. The cavalry commenced to engage Shelby only a few minutes after Mitchell surrendered and fought him two hours. The enemy, it is reported, had 2,000 or 3,000 men, and I have reasons to believe that he had forces still back that were not engaged. Our loss was 6 killed and 42 wounded. I think we lost no prisoners. The fight ended by the enemy falling back into the timber toward the north and a little in this direction. Geiger then fell back to prevent the enemy getting between this place and him. Our men did more than hold their own. I have had no communication at all with Little Rock, and do not know what has been going on there yesterday and to-day. Of course I know nothing about operations at Pine Bluff. I am apprehensive that the enemy will move up here from the Arkansas River. My forces have lately been taken away to the extent of two regiments to strengthen Pine Bluff, and the Fifty-fourth Illinois, a veteran regiment, had lately been taken from here to serve as guard for hay contractors. I, therefore, have only about 600 infantry and 1,000 effective cavalry, together with one battery. I started some scouts through to Little Rock an hour ago. I yesterday sent to Saint Charles for a gun-boat, which I soon expect to arrive.

In haste, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. C. C. WASHBURN,
Memphis.

P. S.—Three demands were made upon Colonel Mitchell before he surrendered. Our loss in infantry must amount to 450 prisoners.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, August 25, 1864—2 p. m.

MAJOR: I desire to communicate in a few brief lines the military condition of affairs in this locality as far as they are known to me. I do this because there are at present no means open for communication between Little Rock and this place. I learned yesterday morning from a reliable source that the rebels had completed pontoons over the Arkansas above the post, and were to cross day before yesterday; that their plan was to attack Little Rock, Devall's Bluff, and the railroad simultaneously. I was unable to communicate this intelligence to General Steele on account of the telegraph lines being down. At 12.30 yesterday news by messenger reached me that Shelby had come down from the north with 2,000 men, artillery and a train, and attacked the hay stations, fifteen miles out. Guarding these stations from eight to fifteen miles out were posts of two companies of infantry at each post. The Fifty-fourth Illinois Veteran Volunteer Infantry was on this duty. Colonel Mitchell, commanding, concentrated six companies at one post and made some resistance. He was finally taken with his force. Our loss in prisoners thus taken must be about 400 or 500. My force here had lately been weakened to re-enforce Pine Bluff, and I have only 600 infantry, one battery of six pieces, and from 800 to 1,000 cavalry. On learning of this attack, however, I sent out all the available cavalry at hand under Colonel Geiger, commanding Third Brigade. He took with him 750 men, moved out promptly, and began to engage the enemy's skirmishers only a few minutes after Colonel Mitchell had been taken. Geiger had the Eighth Missouri, Ninth Iowa, and about 150 men of the Eleventh Missouri. He engaged the enemy about two hours. The enemy then began to fall back toward the north, and inclining this way, upon which Geiger fell back to prevent his getting between this place and him. Our loss in that fight was 6 killed and 42 wounded. The fight took place upon the open prairie and was a gallant affair. I yesterday sent down to Saint Charles and requested that a gun-boat be sent up. I expect it to arrive soon. There are about 1,500 troops at Saint Charles which I wish were here. I am certainly weak, even to hold this place against a serious attack of superior numbers. I ought to be able to move out and whip completely any such force as Shelby has. We are working constantly. I have armed the quartermaster's employés. A loyal person took pains to travel in some distance to inform me that Price's movement toward Pine Bluff was a feint; that he would probably attack Little Rock.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. C. T. CHRISTENSEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, New Orleans.

Have had no communication with Little Rock since day before yesterday.

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HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, August 25, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the facts and information I am able to furnish in regard to the attack by General Shelby's forces yesterday on the railroad and haymakers' stations, near Ashley's Station.

I will first remark that the telegraph line was down all day yesterday, and to show the information which I received early yesterday morning, will copy the dispatch which I sent to the telegraph office:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, August 24, 1864—8 a. m.

Capt. C. H. DYER, *Little Rock:*

A Mrs. Jones (loyal), who lives just below confluence of Bayou Metoe and Bayou Two Prairies, overheard conversation day before yesterday, at her home, between two Confederate scouts, to the effect that rebels had pontoons over the Arkansas above the post and would cross by yesterday; that the plan was to attack Little Rock, the railroad, and Devall's Bluff at the same time.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NOTE.—This was not sent on 24th, wires being down; action at hay station.

At about 12.30 p. m. a man from the First Nebraska came riding in haste up to my headquarters and reported that Shelby had captured Ashley's Station, where were two companies of Fifty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and a detachment of the First Nebraska; that Shelby came upon the railroad from the north; that he had about 2,000 men, artillery, and a wagon train; also that he was moving upon the other hay stations in this direction (Ashley's Station is full twelve miles distant from here). Immediately on receipt of this intelligence I directed Col. W. F. Geiger, commanding Third Brigade (cavalry), to proceed with his available force at hand toward Shelby to interpose assistance to the infantry if he could, or at any rate to observe the enemy.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, August 24, 1864.

Col. W. F. GEIGER, *Commanding Third Brigade:*

COLONEL: You will send a scout of 200 men, with four days' rations, in direction of Arkansas Post, to start immediately. The officer in command will report at these headquarters for instructions.

By order of Brig. Gen. C. C. Andrews:

W. A. MARTIN,
First Lieut., Third Michigan Cavalry, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

Before noon Colonel Geiger was excused from sending this scout till morning, on account of expectation of the regiments being paid.

Colonel Geiger was very prompt in moving off, taking with him the Eighth and Eleventh Missouri and the Ninth Iowa Cavalry. About fifteen minutes after the first messenger arrived another of the First Nebraska arrived with intelligence similar to the first, and subsequently for an hour or two enlisted men and citizen employés came in every half hour or so, confirming the intelligence. Each one reported the enemy's force from 2,000 to 2,500, and altogether superior to the detachments guarding the hay contractors. They represented that they had been only a little more than an hour coming in. At about 2 o'clock a messenger brought me a communication from Col. G. M. Mitchell, commanding Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry Veteran Volunteers, and the other troops guarding haymakers, of which the following is a copy:

JONES AND LANE'S HAY STATION, *August 24, 1864.*

General ANDREWS:

I am surrounded by a large number of cavalry from the north of the railroad. Ashley's Station surrendered, and hay burned. I have concentrated six companies at this station and will fight to the last; send help if possible. The enemy have two pieces of artillery.

G. M. MITCHELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

P. S.—I have heard nothing of the two companies at the stockade. I rode up to Myers' Pass and the fight took place in my absence.

MITCHELL.

Soon after the receipt of this I sent an engine with four platform-cars with instructions to take up the two companies of Twelfth Michigan Volunteer Infantry guarding railroad bridge from eight to ten miles distant from here, and proceed on with them as a re-enforcement, or in case that appeared impracticable to bring them in. Lieut. E. C. Litherland, acting aide-de-camp, volunteered to carry out these instructions. Upon getting out beyond the farthest of these small posts, it appeared that the hay stations were on fire. There was constant firing, and it was not thought prudent by the lieutenant to proceed any farther. Both companies of the Twelfth Michigan were soon afterward brought in. At this time Colonel Geiger's command had not reached the enemy. Colonel Geiger's skirmishers began to engage the enemy about a mile this side of Jones' hay station, and he reports that it was only a very few minutes after the firing had ceased at that station that they commenced. He moved on beyond Jones' Station and there learned from a wounded man, as well as from appearances of things there, that Colonel Mitchell and the six companies with him had been captured. Although the enemy largely outnumbered Colonel Geiger's command, he engaged him for about two hours in a brisk fight. The enemy then began to fall back toward the timber and to the north, moving at the same time in this direction. At this, Geiger began also to fall back this way. Our men are reported to have fought very gallantly. Copies of reports of casualties in each regiment are inclosed. The number of killed, wounded, and missing is as follows: Eighth Missouri Cavalry, killed, 3; wounded, 36; Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, killed, 3; wounded, 7. Total, killed, 6; wounded, 43.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER, *Little Rock.*

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, August 27, 1864.

Since my report of the 25th was written I learned that the two companies of the Fifty-fourth Illinois at the stockade were not taken. Lieutenant-Colonel Chapman, of the Fifty-fourth Illinois, was on the train that was bringing the paymaster along that day. As soon as it was known that the enemy was in the vicinity he had the paymaster's box of money put on the engine with instructions to have it burned if the train was captured. The sutler of the First Nebraska escaped from the enemy, and I learned that he reports that the prisoners were taken in a southwest direction, and that any prisoner who fell out or was unable to keep up (and they were marched fast) was shot. I will have the sutler's deposition taken as soon as I can have his personal attendance. Two companies of the Twelfth Michigan were sent out yesterday to occupy the posts about eight miles distant from here. I went out there myself on a platform-car. I sent out Lieutenant-Colonel Chapman with a party yesterday to repair the telegraph. I expect it will soon be working. One boat, the Kate Hart, has started to Saint Charles.

In haste, very respectfully, &c.,

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. C. H. DYER, *Little Rock.*

P. S.—I received dispatch this morning to send out Colonel Geiger with his available force. He is ready to move.

C. C. A.

No. 3.

Report of Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade, Cavalry Division.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., CAV. DIV., SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Brownsville, Ark., October 14, 1864.

In compliance to telegram just received from the major-general commanding, I have the honor to report that on the 24th day of August, at 1.30 p. m., I received the following communication from Brigadier-General Andrews, commanding forces at Devall's Bluff:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
August 24, 1864.

Col. W. F. GEIGER,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: A messenger who left Ashley's Station an hour and a half ago reports that a column of cavalry, apparently 2,000, were moving upon and had attacked Ashley's Station. It had a wagon train and was coming from the north. Move out with what force you can take for observation at least. Interpose assistance to our forces if you can.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

In twenty minutes I was on the march with detachments Eighth Missouri Cavalry, 360, Ninth Iowa, 210, and Eleventh Missouri, 120, and moved as rapidly as the condition of my horses would permit in the direction of Ashley's Station. When within one mile and a half of Jones' hay station I heard cannonading which appeared to be at the station, and I saw heavy columns of smoke arising which I supposed was burning hay. I resumed my march to a rapid trot, threw out my skirmishers, and deployed the Eighth Missouri Cavalry as I marched. When within a quarter of a mile of Jones' Station the cannonading ceased, and seeing a line of about 2,000 of the enemy's cavalry drawn up on the north side of the railroad, I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Stephens to cross the railroad with the Eleventh Missouri and move on the enemy's left flank, while the Eighth Missouri attacked him in front, keeping the Ninth Iowa as a reserve. The enemy immediately opened a heavy fire of musketry, which was replied to by our carbines. The fighting continued about two hours, during which time my line advanced steadily while that of the enemy retired slowly, but in good order. The enemy made two or three attempts to charge my left flank, but were repulsed each time. I had now driven the enemy back into the timber, where I discovered two lines of dismounted men, who appeared to be endeavoring to outflank me on the left, and get between my force and Devall's Bluff. Night coming on, I withdrew my forces, and returned to Devall's Bluff, arriving at 9 p. m., having marched thirty miles and fought two hours after 2 p. m. with horses that had just returned from a hard scout without having feed for two days. My loss in killed and wounded were: Eighth Missouri Cavalry, killed, 6; wounded, 38; missing, 1. Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, killed, 3; wounded, 5. Both officers and men behaved as soldiers should. Had my horses been in such a condition that I could have charged the enemy I might have punished him more severely. Of Colonel Mitchell I know nothing. The officer in charge of my skirmishers said he saw the enemy hurrying the prisoners toward the timber as he advanced.

W. F. GEIGER,
Commanding Brigade.

Lieut. Col. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Arkansas.

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Seventh Army Corps, Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, commanding.**

* * * * * * *

August 24.—At 1 p. m. the brigade marched toward Ashley's Station, seventeen miles from Devall's Bluff, on the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad, where it was reported the enemy had made his appearance in force. On arriving near the station our pickets engaged those of the enemy, where he showed himself in force on the open prairie, commanded by the rebel General Shelby. Line of battle was formed and the action commenced, which lasted for two hours and ten minutes, when our supply of ammunition was exhausted. We then withdrew in good order to Devall's Bluff. The enemy were as anxious to leave as we were. Apparently they withdrew at the same time, leaving their dead unburied. Our loss was not heavy, the enemy losing heavily both in killed and wounded, notwithstanding they outnumbered us three to one. The brigade returned to camp at 10 p. m. of the same date.

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No. 4.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Gilbert Moyers, Third Michigan Cavalry.

BROWNSVILLE, *August 24, 1864.*

Train has returned from Ashley's with Lieutenant Colonel Chapman, Fifty-fourth Illinois, and force. He lost 75 men. A surgeon from that regiment was captured, and since returned. He saw Shelby, who is in command of a force to number 1,500. Two of our wounded are here. Enemy in possession of road at last accounts.

MOYERS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BROWNSVILLE, *August 24, 1864.*

The enemy have captured Ashley's Station and burned it. Force not known. They have artillery.

G. MOYERS.

Capt. C. H. DYER.

No. 5.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army.

HDQRS. CONFEDERATE FORCES OF NORTHERN ARKANSAS,
August 30, 1864.

COLONEL: I report to you with pleasure another severe fight and another substantial victory on the 24th of August. I moved with 2,500

*From monthly return.

men squarely against the railroad leading from Devall's Bluff to Little Rock, knowing that if General Price reached there, as he supposed he would be able to do, I could render him vital and important assistance. I started from the neighborhood of Jacksonport and had to march within twenty-four miles of Little Rock to Austin to cross Big Cypress at the bridge there, which stream was running out bank full and irresistible. After a rapid and hard march I gained the prairie, about six miles from Devall's Bluff, and found the Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry strongly posted at Ashley's Station No. 1, in a mixed fortification of logs, dirt, and hay. The surprise was complete. As I debouched from the timber on the green and emerald prairie little squads of Federals were scattered here and there, and away to the east a dozen or more machines were busily engaged baling hay. My column was well closed up and marching in column of fours, and the white covered wagons with the artillery looked very much like a returning Federal expedition. Very soon, however, their confidence was destroyed, and the rusticating bands dozing away the hot summer hours were fleeing the wrath to come.

My forlorn hope of an advance under the brave and intrepid Williams immediately charged the retreating enemy, and a wave of steel overleaped and swallowed up the fleeing blue coats. The fort was surrounded, the artillery opened at point-blank range, and high over the white bursts of the powder-cloud that drifted and floated away before the battle breeze a white flag waved out as a token of surrender.

The results of the capture were 150 prisoners, 200 small-arms, besides large quantities of supplies.

Station No. 2 was next attacked, captured, and destroyed, and 100 more prisoners added to the first. Station No. 3 shared the same fate, while 50 more prisoners swelled the number. Stations Nos. 4 and 5 were stubborn and defiant, and held on for awhile under a pitiless and splendid artillery fire. Veteran Illinois and Indiana infantry were in these redoubts, and they had a hatred of surrendering, although I had never asked them to do so. Time pressed. Five hours had been spent in this operation and I could not wait. Colonel Shanks, commanding my old brigade, than whom a braver nor a better man set a squadron in the field, was ordered to dismount his men. Colonel Jackman also dismounted a portion of his brigade, and these forming with Colonel Shanks dashed forward under their intrepid leader at the *pas de charge*, while a strong body of cavalry were held well in hand for any emergency. The garrison grew uneasy, but over the sea of dark green prairie, over the white puffs of the bursting bombs, and the rippling shots of the skirmishers, a long blue line of Federal cavalry and infantry came looming up, and as they grew nearer and nearer out from the doomed forts the garrison rushed with frantic speed for help and hope too late. As the dismounted men reached the ditches and palisades the reserve cavalry, whose steeds had all the long forenoon been champing impatient bits, dashed away after them in a long, fierce gallop. Sharp and brief the chase. When within 500 yards of their friends the Federals were overtaken, surrounded, ridden over, and Colonel Mitchell and 450 of his officers and men surrendered unconditionally. They were immediately countermarched and double-quicked to the rear, the bullets of their friends all the while ringing fierce, discordant meter.

The situation was now getting dark and troublesome. A heavy force was coming up rapidly from Devall's Bluff, and the regiment I had disposed under Colonel Hunter, of Jackman's brigade, and a battalion of

my old brigade, under Major McDaniel, were falling back, painfully but manfully fighting like heroes. From Little Rock another column had just arrived, and these two bodies were uniting with an ugly look, presaging the coming hurricane. I had sent my artillery and ordnance train under escort of McCray's brigade to the rear as soon as the Federal re-enforcements appeared, for I knew my skeleton animals could never take them from the moist and muddy prairie if a swift retreat was necessary, and now I faced them at an odds of one to five. They formed a line of battle rapidly and came on in splendid style, and I fell back gradually before them, giving shot for shot and bringing off everything. Twice they feebly charged with the blare of bugles and the rattle of impatient arms, and twice the old veterans of my command drove them back in confusion and dismay. All day and night they followed me to Austin, which was reached by daylight, where I had left Colonel Dobbin, and where I halted for the day after marching forty miles from sun to sun and fighting six hours.

At Austin I placed two regiments under command of Col. B. F. Gordon, a brave and skillful officer, and ordered him to bring up the rear. He held the bridge and banks of the stream, which the Federals after dismounting charged furiously three successive times, and were charged in turn three times by Col. B. F. Gordon with brilliant dash. This satisfied them, and I returned to White River without further molestation.

The immediate and tangible fruits of my expedition are 577 prisoners, including 1 field officer and 11 line officers; over 200 Federals killed and wounded; ten miles of railroad track destroyed completely—the ties torn up and burned, the iron heated and bent, telegraph destroyed, bridges and trestle-works ruined; 3,000 bales of hay destroyed by fire; 20 hay machines chopped to pieces; 5 forts razed to the ground; 500 stand of small-arms distributed to my unarmed men; many fine horses captured; 12 barrels of salt brought off the field and given to a command suffering for it, besides supplying many needy soldiers with blankets, shoes, boots, hats, and clothing. All this was done within six miles of Devall's Bluff, and my detail was tearing up the track while the enemy's bullets, fired at the covering regiments, were throwing the splinters from the ties in their very faces.

My thanks are due to Colonels Shanks, Gordon, Hunter, Jackman, and Erwin; Major McDaniel, Captains Williams, Langhorne, Adams, McCoy, and Lieutenant-Colonel Blackwell for their eminent and devoted services. In fact, every officer under my command, and the men as a body, deserve great praise for the heroic manner in which they stormed fortifications and met and defeated largely superior numbers of the enemy.

My loss in the entire engagement is 173 killed and wounded. Among this number there fell mortally wounded Lieutenant Stone, of Shanks' regiment, and Lieutenant Dickey, of Smith's regiment, two as gallant spirits as ever laid down their lives a willing sacrifice for their country beneath the banner of the bars.

Col. A. S. Dobbin, left at Austin to cover my rear on account of Big Cypress being swimming, performed his duty ably and perfectly.

JO. O. SHELBY.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Camden, Ark.

AUGUST 25, 1864.—Skirmishes at Morgan's Ferry and on the Atchafalaya River, La.

Report of Brig. Gen. Michael K. Lawler, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., August 28, 1864.

I would respectfully report for the information of the major-general commanding that Lieutenant-Colonel Gurney, Second New York Cavalry, with a party of fifty cavalry made a reconnaissance to Morgan's Ferry on the 25th instant. He found the enemy encamped on the opposite side in some force with four pieces of artillery in position; two miles this side the river he encountered a rebel picket consisting of one lieutenant and six men; these were pursued to the river, where they took refuge under the bank, under cover of their guns. Colonel Gurney, however, with half his force, very gallantly charged up to the river, and, although exposed to a heavy fire from the enemy's artillery, succeeded in capturing and bringing off the picket without loss. On the same day Capt. R. F. Yeaton, First Louisiana Cavalry, with 100 men, visited the Atchafalaya by way of the New Texas road, Bayou Latenache, and Robinson's plantation. On the road they met a party of four rebels and captured their horses and equipments. The men escaped to the woods. They struck the Atchafalaya at the mouth of Mamie Bayou; captured a Confederate soldier in the act of crossing the river in a small boat used as ferry. One company of the enemy are encamped on the opposite side. Captain Yeaton dismounted his men and fired a volley into their camp and drove them from it in confusion, killing a number of horses. Under cover of the dismounted men Lieutenant Emmons and four men of the First Louisiana Cavalry took the boat, crossed over to the camp, destroyed 10 Enfield rifles, 12 or 15 saddles and equipments, and threw all movable camp and garrison equipage into the river, and recrossed in safety. The captain returned to camp without further adventure of interest. The prisoners, Lieutenant Gilley and six men of the Thirty-fourth and one of the First Texas Regiment, were sent down yesterday.

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. S. C. FARRINGTON, *Staff of Major-General Reynolds.*

AUGUST 25–29, 1864.—Scouts in Jackson and Cass Counties, Mo., with skirmish (26th) near Pleasant Hill.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry.
No. 2.—Sergt. Henry J. Tibbits, Company D, Second Colorado Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry.

KANSAS CITY, MO., *August 27, 1864.*

Fourteen foot-scouts, under Corporal Shaw, had a fight with not less than sixty bushwhackers yesterday morning, eight miles east of Pleasant Hill, killing 2 and also wounding 2, disabling some horses. No one hurt on our side.

J. H. FORD,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. JAMES H. STEGER, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 2.

Report of Sergt. Henry J. Tibbits, Company D, Second Colorado Cavalry.

INDEPENDENCE, MO., *August 29, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report my foot scout:

I started from here about 10 o'clock on the 25th day of August, 1864, with twenty-three men, and proceeded to Captain West's camp, on Fire Prairie, distance twelve miles. There I took ten more men, making my force in all thirty-three men, and about 7 o'clock that same evening I proceeded north from said camp about twelve miles and then camped for the night. The next morning I proceeded north about six miles to Six-Mile Creek; thence northeast to the telegraph road, a distance of about six miles, and there I found that the bushwhackers had pulled the wire down in the road and piled rails on it in such a manner that a person riding fast in the night might hurt himself by running against it. I then struck off in an easterly direction to Fire Prairie Creek, a distance of about seven miles, and there camped for the night. The next morning I proceeded southeast to Judge Gray's. There my pickets saw three bushwhackers and fired upon them; and I also learned there that Thornton had crossed the river on Wednesday night with about 150 men and had gone south. About seventy-five of them fed in that vicinity the next morning after crossing the river. And I also learned that there were about 400 of the militia in pursuit of them. Then I proceeded about one mile on Bone Hill and saw eight bushwhackers, but they were some distance off and I did not get a shot at them. I then camped for the night. I saw plenty of signs about there. The next morning I went back to Judge Gray's and I learned there that Todd was in the country with about 150 men. I then started south and went across Bone Hill to Robinson's. I saw plenty of signs on my route, and at Robinson's I saw plenty of fresh camps and where there had a large command crossed Bone Hill. I staid there until about 6 p. m., and learned that fifty men had stopped there the night before and fifteen that morning, and fed. They were said to belong to Thornton's command. I then struck west, and after marching about one mile and a half, and about half a mile from the Widow Robinson's, I met eight bushwhackers in the brush and fired upon them, and saw six go off mounted and two loose horses following without riders. I then went to the Widow Robinson's house and learned there that eight bushwhackers had been there that evening and taken supper, and that Todd had been there the day before with twenty-four men and drawn up in line before the house, and after waiting there about one hour two men came from the brush and talked with him some time. Then they disbanded and went into the brush in squads of about four or five men in a squad. I also learned that they had been passing there for the last week in small squads and I saw plenty of tracks, and I think that there is a command near there of about 100 or 150 men. I staid there until dark and then struck a southwest course for about four miles and camped for the night. Then this morning I started about 4.30 o'clock for Captain West's camp, and arrived there about 8 o'clock, distance seven miles. I remained there about an hour and then left the ten men there that I got there and came to Independence with the balance of my command, arriving here at 12.30 p. m. I saw no signs after leaving the

hills on the other side of Fire Prairie. I believe that they are collecting together in that vicinity either for the purpose of making a raid or to go south.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. TIBBITS,
Sergt. Co. D, Second Colorado Cavalry, Comdg. Detachment.

Maj. J. NELSON SMITH,
Commanding Station.

AUGUST 25–30, 1864.—Scout in Platte County, Mo.

Report of Capt. Edward Morris, Sixth Missouri Cavalry.

SAINT JOSEPH, MO., *August 31, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of my actions and observations while commanding a scout through Platte County. The party, consisting of one commissioned officer beside myself and forty enlisted men of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, left Saint Joseph on the 25th instant at 7.30 a. m.; marched a zigzag direction (the general course being south of southeast) to a point on Platte City and Liberty stone road, ten miles from Liberty; thence marched south six miles to Barry and Hampton stone road; thence west to Platte City and Parkville stone road; marched down to Parkville, arriving at 11 p. m. on the 27th. On the 28th marched toward Hampton and Farley through the woods, scouting all out-of-the-way places and guerrilla harbors. Passed between Weston and Platte City, marching on unfrequented roads to New Market. From New Market passed Arnoldsville and Matney's Mill. Passed through The Hackle, over Platte River stone bridge, and arrived at Saint Joseph last evening at 5 p. m., having marched, principally by by-roads and paths, 130 miles, and touched the following-named places: Agency Ford, Arnoldsville, Matney's Mill, Union Mills, Ridgeley, Ringgold, Jordan's Ford, on Smith's Fork of Platte River, Medling's Old Mill, Smithville, Second Creek, Union Church, Todd's Creek, Hampton, Parkville, point opposite Atchison, Kans., Farley, Bee Creek bridge, New Market, Taos, Clauser's Old Mill, Sparta, Wright's Ford, The Hackle, Easton, and the Platte River bridge, near Saint Joseph. I threw out scouts each day four or five miles on either flank of the marching column, and had them to report to me twice every twenty-four hours. I was fired on near Jordan's Ford; also near Walker's, or Hampton. Followed the bushwhackers three times, and had one horse slightly wounded accidentally. Destroyed some thirty or forty guns that were in the houses of rebels, and disarmed all parties not honestly loyal on our way. Scouts and advanced guards report running after and shooting three rebels. I heard of Cy. Gordon near Platte City, and believe he is still in the country. Chiles has been in the vicinity of Arnoldsville since the 25th, stealing horses. In my opinion nothing can be accomplished against guerrillas in small parties, unless their harborers and feeders be killed or driven out of the country and a similar system of warfare be practiced against themselves. I would respectfully suggest the idea of organizing fifty partisan rangers for such service in each county where guerrillas harbor and commit depredations. The loyal men of Platte and Buchanan Counties would gladly fill up such organizations, which could be handled independently and to more advantage than any regiment of volunteers now in service. Lieutenant Hutchinson, of Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, did good service and was prompt in carry-

ing out my orders. The men of the squadron acted nobly, and I dare say created a good impression upon the minds of all loyal citizens. Captain Snyder, of Saint Joseph, and Lieutenant Noland, of Parkville, gave me all the assistance asked for, cheerfully sending their best men as guides to my command.

Hoping the maneuvers and marches executed may meet the approval of the general commanding,

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. MORRIS,
Captain, Sixth Missouri Cavalry.

Capt. G. A. HOLLOWAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dist. of North Missouri.

AUGUST 25–30, 1864.—Scout to Crisp's Mill, on Big Creek, Mo., with skirmish near Rose Hill.

Report of Capt. Oscar B. Queen, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. CO. M, SEVENTH CAV. MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Camp Grover, August 31, 1864.

SIR: In pursuance to Special Orders, No. 82, dated headquarters Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Camp Grover, August 25, 1864, I proceeded with Lieut. Samuel W. McGuire and fifty men to the vicinity of Big Creek, under the guidance of W. E. Chester, for the purpose of scouting the country thoroughly. I have the honor to report the result of that scout: Proceeding through Post Oak Timber and visiting every place likely to afford refuge for rebels without success I came on to Bear Creek, which I effectually scoured, seeing occasionally a single trail. Through this country there is a citizen guard patrolling, and frequently we would strike their trail, several times running on to small squads of them. I will mention here that serious consequences might have resulted from my not having had the challenge signal communicated to me, although I applied for it before leaving. Having given this country a thorough scouring, I proceeded to Panther Creek, where I met the scout from Holden, under Captain Foster, consisting of thirty men. Having joined our commands, we soon fell on the trail of a rebel force, said to number 140 men, under command of a Major or Captain Farmer or Palmer. Coming to where they had breakfasted we found from the people there that they were aiming to get south, leaving word with the old man for all bushwhackers he "might see to come out south and give up bushwhacking." A part of this command is represented as being unarmed and well provided with provisions and good horses. They had passed two days previous, consequently we considered it useless to follow. The command is from Independence. We proceeded to Camp Branch. I here gave Captain Foster a sufficient number of men to equalize our commands, and taking each a side of the creek, made a drive down it to Big Creek, which we thoroughly searched. Passing on to Crawford's Fork of Big Creek, we scouted it as we had done Camp Branch back to Big Creek, which we treated in like manner on as far as Crisp's Mill. Within six miles northwest Rose Hill, and in neighborhood of this mill, Foster ran into two small squads from seven to ten men each. He captured 1 very fine gray horse and full rig with U. S. mail sack under saddle, belonging to a notorious bushwhacker named John Reeves. He got two or three old citizen saddles also and left two or three worthless wounded horses belonging to the

rebels. He thinks he may have wounded one or two. Here too I ran on to two but effected nothing beyond expending about forty rounds of ammunition. They would not stop to return fire, and out of sight in a few seconds. The country extremely rough and covered with hazel and scrub-oak. We understood here that a Lieutenant Lowry and twelve men from rebel army in rebel uniform are in that country or on Blackwater. What their purpose is no one could or would tell. Lowry's wife lives near Mrs. Fulkerson, near Crisp's Mill. I think the order to "thoroughly scout" the Big Creek country has been fully carried out, and too much credit cannot be given to my guide for his industry and ingenuity on the route. He would frequently at night start out dressed in rebel uniform and play off on the sympathizers of that country, getting thereby much information. It was by this we obtained the information about Lieutenant Lowry. My opinion is that thirty-five will cover the number of bushwhackers scattered in the Big Creek country. The people there have been frightened by the scout to that degree (I mean the rebels) that they are under the impression that the whole country around them is filled with Federals. We went within four miles of Chapel Hill and six of Rose Hill, thoroughly scouting the Basin Knob country. The parties we came on were taken totally by surprise, not dreaming of Federals being in the country. My men were without rations two days before coming in, having had their haversacks torn from them by the brush in the chase after the squads mentioned above. I left on August 26, and returned to camp August 30.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. QUEEN,
Capt. Company M, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Col. T. T. CRITTENDEN,
Commanding Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

AUGUST 25-30, 1864.—Operations on the Texas Prairie, in Jackson County, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. Bazel F. Lazear, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. SECOND SUB-DIST., DIST. OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
In the Field, August 30, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that since my report of the 27th the troops under my command have scouted the country between the Missouri River and the Snibar and the Texas Prairie country, and report no guerrillas found in that section. There are some six in between the two Davis' Creeks and some eight between Lexington and Wellington. On the 25th Lieutenant Groomer, whom I had left with a foot-scout in the Pool Settlement, found one of the horses that was captured from Company F at Arrow Rock tied in the brush. He left a party to watch the horse. Late in the evening a man by the name of Rutherford came to the horse with water and feed, and was shot and killed and the horse wounded. Captain Wyckoff has also returned from the Tabo country and reports no guerrillas there. I learn there is a small party near Dover. Had no news from Saline County, but suppose all quiet there, or I would have been advised by Captain Moore. The command, except Company F, will concentrate on the 31st on the Waddle farm, five miles from Lexington, on the Lexington and Greenton road, for muster, for pay, and to receive rations, when the command

will be divided, sending Major Mullins and one battalion to Saline County for the purpose of making a thorough scout through the two counties at the same time. As I think there will be no more interruptions of mail communication between Lexington and Warrensburg, I forward by mail and will receive my communications from district headquarters at Lexington.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. LAZEAR,
Lieut. Col. First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Commanding.

Capt. JAMES H. STEGER,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Central Mo., Warrensburg, Mo.

AUGUST 26–31, 1864.—Skirmish near Bayou Tensas (26th) and expedition from Goodrich's Landing to Bayou Macon, La. (28th–31st).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Report of Col. A. Watson Webber, Fifty-first U. S. Colored Troops.
No. 2.—Report of Maj. Charles H. Chapin, Third U. S. Colored Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. A. Watson Webber, Fifty-first U. S. Colored Troops.

HEADQUARTERS POST AND DEFENSES,
Goodrich's Landing, La., September 1, 1864.

COLONEL: On the morning of August 26 a party of 200 guerrillas made a raid upon the plantations about this place which are leased by Tibbetts & Co. They killed two scouts after they had surrendered; carried away one white overseer, and a young man by the name of Webster, clerk for the same firm; both the overseer and Mr. Webster were murdered by them as soon as they reached Bayou Tensas. Cavalry was immediately sent in pursuit, but did not overtake them. These highwaymen are commanded by a man named Lee, and although they are guerrillas, and commit the most abominable atrocities, they are permitted to remain near, and co-operate with the regular rebel forces under General Harrison. He is really responsible for all their acts. As the people on Bayou Macon have many times petitioned Harrison to allow this Lee to remain near them, as their protector, I sent 230 mounted men under Maj. C. H. Chapin, Third U. S. Colored Cavalry, to pay them a retaliatory visit. He accomplished all that I desired, and returned to this post yesterday. I forward herewith a copy of his report to me. I hold a certain Doctor Richardson as a hostage for young Webster in accordance with General Orders, No. 4, dated headquarters Military Division of the Mississippi, November 5, 1863. In accordance with General Orders, No. 6, headquarters District of Vicksburg, May 12, 1864, I intend to seize all the movable and valuable property of secessionists living on Old River thirty miles above this post.

Trusting that my action in this matter meets the approval of the major-general commanding,

I have the honor to be, colonel, your very obedient servant,

A. WATSON WEBBER,
Colonel Fifty-first Regiment U. S. Colored Infantry, Comdg.

Lieut. Col. H. C. RODGERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. District of Vicksburg.

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the Post and Defenses of Goodrich's Landing, La., commanded by Col. A. Watson Webber, Fifty-first U. S. Colored Infantry.**

During the past month various expeditions have been sent from this post into Mississippi and Louisiana; 30 prisoners have been taken.

August 26.—Two hundred guerrillas made a raid upon the plantations above this post leased by H. B. Tibbetts & Co. They cruelly murdered four white men and several colored people. As the rebel citizens living immediately beyond Bayou Macon had petitioned the regular rebel military authorities to allow this gang of highwaymen to remain on the Macon as their protectors and raid Yankee lessees, a retaliatory expedition was sent to that vicinity. The villages of Floyd and Pinhook, guerrilla rendezvous, were destroyed by fire, some property taken by the guerrillas was recaptured, and 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 10 soldiers were killed.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Charles H. Chapin, Third U. S. Colored Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST BATTLN., THIRD U. S. COLORED CAVALRY,
Goodrich's Landing, La., August 31, 1864.

SIR: Pursuant to orders from Colonel Webber I left camp August 28 at dusk; was overtaken by a storm four miles from camp, and encamped at night at the Transylvania plantation. On the morning of the 29th I marched as far as the Blackburn plantation, at the head of Lake Providence. I there found eight pairs of boots, which were distributed among the soldiers that were without boots. At 1 o'clock moved on as far as Goff's plantation, on Old River, where I captured the horses of two soldiers, who made their escape on foot. Camped again for the night at Mr. Owen's, one mile from Goff's. On the morning of the 30th started at daylight for Ashton, from there turned west, crossed Bayou Macon, found a good bridge crossing the Macon six miles west of Ashton. At the first plantation after crossing was a squad of soldiers, seven in number. Six were mounted; the one on foot was killed. Papers found on his person showed that he was a Captain Collins, of a Louisiana regiment. I turned down the bayou from that point toward Pinhook, eighteen miles distant. About six miles from Pinhook lived a Mr. Washburn. I found in his house a saddle belonging to one of the plantation scouts, also two of the negroes taken from the Tibbetts plantation; one trunk that was in the house was filled with goods taken from the Wilton place. I gave Mr. Washburn five minutes to remove his goods. I then set fire to the house and every building on the plantation. I then started for Mr. Shaw's, one and a quarter miles north of Pinhook. Mr. Shaw has been furnished with what goods he wanted by Mr. Charles Goff, a man by the name of Canihan acting as mediator between them. This Mr. Shaw told me in the presence of Lieutenants Calais and Sherman. I did not burn Shaw's place, but at Pinhook I left but one house standing. I left Pinhook at 2 o'clock for Floyd, met several soldiers on the way in small squads; most of them were shot before they could get away. Arriving at Floyd about sundown, I gave

* From monthly return.

them five minutes' notice to remove goods, then burned about four-fifths of the town. Crossed Bayou Macon again an hour after dark, marched to Joe's Bayou and stopped for the night, marching a distance of fifty miles on the 30th with but one feed for the stock. There were ten men killed in all, 1 captain, 8 soldiers, and one man by the name of Bonner, who was engaged in carrying the mail. On the morning of the 31st I moved into camp at Goodrich's Landing, La., after carrying out all orders as nearly as I possibly could.

Trusting this may meet with all that was expected of my raid, I remain, yours to command,

CHARLES H. CHAPIN,
Major Third U. S. Colored Cavalry.

Lieutenant KARBERG,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 27-28, 1864.—Scout on the Arkansas River, near Pine Bluff, Ark., with skirmishes.

Report of Col. Powell Clayton, Fifth Kansas Cavalry.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *August 28, 1864.*

The scout sent down the river went about thirty miles. They skirmished with the enemy for several miles and found that it would be unsafe to proceed farther. The officer in command, Captain Wightman, is confident that the enemy have no means of crossing the Arkansas, except by flats. I will send out another scout upon a different road. I will have them go out toward Brownsville, and then take down the prairie, with instructions to go to Arkansas Post, if possible. I am satisfied that the enemy have not crossed below us in any considerable number.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Major-General STEELE.

AUGUST 27-SEPTEMBER 6, 1864.—Expeditions from Little Rock and Devall's Bluff to Searcy, Fairview, and Augusta, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Joseph R. West, U. S. Army, commanding expedition to Searcy, &c.
No. 2.—Col. William H. Graves, Twelfth Michigan Infantry, commanding First Brigade, Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joseph R. West, U. S. Army, commanding expedition to Searcy, &c.

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, Ark., October 15, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that pursuant to verbal instructions from the department and district commanders, I left this point on the 27th of August with 600 cavalry, to re-enforce a command of

800 men under Lieut. Col. C. S. Clark, Ninth Kansas Cavalry, reported as engaged on the day previous with the enemy at Cypress Bayou, four miles north of Austin. Same day at noon found Colonel Clark encamped two miles this side of Austin. He had pursued Shelby's rear guard to Bull Bayou, engaging them there, killing 10 and losing 2 men. Colonel Clark reported to me that not hearing of any support coming to him and being out of rations he had fallen back to the point where I found him. Marched to Austin, Colonel Clark's command uniting with mine. Was then joined by two sections of the Fifth Ohio Battery and the Fortieth Iowa Infantry, Colonel Garrett, escorting subsistence train. Issued rations that afternoon; left the train, infantry, and one section of the battery at Austin; marched with the remainder same evening to Bull Bayou. Enemy had left there the preceding day. August 28, received communication at 5 a. m. from the district commander that Colonel Geiger, with his cavalry, was en route from Devall's Bluff, and that I would be co-operated with by a force to be sent up White River. Marched to Searcy same day. August 29, remained at Searcy; was joined by Colonel Geiger at 3 p. m. with 800 cavalry. August 30, train with supplies, escorted by 100 infantry, reached Searcy this afternoon, and advice from district commander that 600 infantry had been sent on the 28th of August up White River to Grand Glaise. Issued rations same day. August 31, sent back train and escort; marched with command to Grand Glaise; a most fatiguing march, thirty-five miles, and roads very bad. Found no steamers; captured 6 prisoners, a rebel quartermaster, and appropriated his blacksmith-shop, tools, and shoes. Had sent a party to Augusta Landing to communicate with the boats and tell them where I was.

September 1, at 10 a. m. party sent to Augusta Landing returned and reported no boats; satisfied myself that the river was too low for boats to reach Grand Glaise, and from appearances, as four days had elapsed since they were reported to me by the district commander as having left Devall's Bluff, I concluded that the undertaking to co-operate with me by the river had been abandoned on account of the low stage of water. Moved same day to Fairview; captured two scouts and learned that all Shelby's force had crossed White River. The miserable condition of the cavalry and artillery horses satisfied me that the enemy could and had marched three miles to my two. Abandoned the idea of a successful pursuit, and concluded to return to Little Rock. September 2, marched by the old military road to Hilcher's Ferry, crossed the Little Red, and continued toward Austin. September 3, resumed march. At 7 a. m., within three miles of crossing of Bull Bayou, received a communication from the district commander, to the effect that the force sent up White River on the 28th ultimo had returned, but that another force of 1,200 men was to be sent to Grand Glaise. The low stage of the river and the exhausted condition of my animals convinced me that nothing could result from this movement continued to Austin. September 4, left detachments of Eighth Missouri, Tenth Illinois, and Ninth Iowa Cavalry at Austin, to remain there and observe any return of the enemy. Ordered remainder of the force to march to Little Rock. Moved in person to Brownsville, and received orders from the district commander to return with my whole force, as the rebels were threatening to cross the Arkansas. Notified him of the disposition of my force, which he approved. Returned same day to Little Rock.

Upon this expedition, as upon a previous one made earlier in the month, the miserable plight of animals that had at any time for months back only been partially foraged, and sometimes left entirely without

any rendered any rapid movement an impossibility. The enemy was better mounted and had forty-eight hours' start. The longer such pursuit was continued the more hopeless it became.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. WEST,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dist. of Little Rock.

No. 2.

Report of Col. William H. Graves, Twelfth Michigan Infantry, commanding First Brigade, Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, Ark., September 8, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: Pursuant to orders received from Brig. Gen. C. C. Andrews, commanding division, I embarked at daylight on the 30th day of August, 1864, with the Twelfth Michigan Infantry and detachments of the Fifty-fourth and Sixty-first Illinois Infantry, 22 officers and 515 men all told, on board the steamer Kate Hart, and convoyed by gun-boat No. 30, Captain Grace commanding, proceeded up White River to effect a junction with Brigadier-General West, commanding a cavalry expedition then in pursuit of the rebel General Shelby, supposed to be in the neighborhood of Jacksonport. Also had rations and ammunition for General West's command. The river proved to be very low, the boats frequently striking on the bottom and finding great difficulty in getting along at all. During the second day out (August 31) saw several detachments of rebel pickets along the river. Ran on to within nineteen miles by river, six miles by land, of Augusta, when finding the navigation growing more and more difficult, I decided, after consultation with Captain Grace, of the gun-boat, that it would be imprudent to go higher up with the boats. We had passed rebel pickets for the last twenty miles of river, and from information they were of Dobbin's command, who was reported to be in Augusta with a force variously estimated by our informants at from 800 to 1,500 men. Nothing could be obtained in reference to the whereabouts of General West. Accordingly I directed our return to Devall's Bluff, where the expedition arrived in the afternoon of the 2d instant. The only casualty was one man of the Twelfth Michigan Infantry, shot dead accidentally. Shortly after debarking, instructions were received from General Andrews to re-embark at daylight next morning. Lighter draught boats and re-enforcements were furnished for this second expedition, which consisted of detachments of my own and Ward's brigade, Smith's division, Seventeenth Corps, in all, numbering 1,000 officers and men, on board three steamers. Left Devall's Bluff shortly after daylight Saturday, September 3, destination and object same as before. During the forenoon of the next day at and above Peach Orchard Bluffs saw rebel pickets, who kept along the bank ahead of us, watching our movements. About 4 p. m. the advanced boat, the Commercial, was fired into by a party of rebels concealed in the bushes on the left bank of the river. The first volley killed 1 man, wounded myself severely in the knee, and 7 men, 3 of them seriously. Directly after the first fire we were greeted by a volley from the opposite bank of the river from a small party of perhaps forty or fifty. The party firing the first volley numbered from 300 to 400 men, as was afterward ascertained from a

citizen living near. For a moment there was considerable confusion among my men. They very soon became cool and returned the fire briskly. In the meantime the other boats came up and began firing, and the gun-boat opened a brisk fire into the thickets which concealed the enemy, who soon withdrew in haste.

The steamer Dove, having on board a detachment of the Ninety-fifth Illinois, about 200 strong, and which had been sent up to join my command, came up at this point. Thinking there must be greater numbers of the enemy near by, who would probably attack us, I ordered the boats to land and the troops ashore, but nothing more was seen of the enemy that night. It was afterward ascertained that this force was a part of Dobbin's command, under a Captain Anderson, and that a much larger force was but a short distance back, which would no doubt have attacked us had the first attempt succeeded in throwing us into confusion, as was anticipated. The loss of the enemy could not be ascertained, but I have no doubt equaled or exceeded our own. My loss was that stated above: 1 man on steamer Celeste, mortally wounded and since dead, and 1 man wounded on steamer Nevada.

The expedition went no higher up the river that night. Owing to my wound the active command devolved upon Col. L. M. Ward, Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry, under whose command the troops landed next morning at a point one mile and a half across a bend of the river from Augusta, and advanced on that place. He found about 400 of the enemy in the town, and they fled on the approach of our troops' force. Dobbin, with his command, had departed to join Shelby, near Jacksonport, higher up the river. It was found impossible to get the boats farther up the river, owing to the low stage of water. A few miles below I was met by a boat bearing dispatches from General Andrews, ordering my immediate return. The messenger also bore dispatches for General West, and about two miles above Peach Orchard Bluffs I landed him and furnished him a cavalry escort to attempt to find his way across the country to General West.

The expedition returned, arriving at Devall's Bluff without further circumstance in the afternoon of Tuesday, September 6 instant.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. GRAVES,

Col. Twelfth Michigan Infty., Comdg. Brig. and the Expedition.

Lieut. W. A. MARTIN,

Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Div., Seventh Army Corps.

AUGUST 28, 1864.—Skirmish near Rocheport, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Report of Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 2.—Report of Capt. Joseph Parke, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 3.—Report of Lieut. William Argo, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

WARRENSBURG, MO., *August 30, 1864.*

Captain Parke, at Boonville, reports having crossed the river on the 28th with forty-four men after Holtzclaw; near Rocheport came

up with two of Holtzclaw's people; wounded 1 and captured both horses. Advanced a mile and was attacked in rear by a band numbering 100 men, commanded by Holtzclaw and Anderson. Captain Parke stated he fought for fifteen minutes and had 7 men killed, 2 wounded, and 3 missing. The men killed are said to have been massacred, four being scalped, one hung and scalped; three had their throats cut; their bodies were afterward recovered and buried at Boonville. From this report Captain Parke's forces were evidently surprised on the march and did not attempt to do any fighting. I recommend that Captain Parke be dismissed the service for this affair.

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Commanding, Saint Louis.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Joseph Parke, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

BOONVILLE, *August 30, 1864.*

On the morning of the 28th I crossed the river with forty-four men in search of Holtzclaw and his men. When within four miles of Rocheport we came up with two of them, wounding 1 and capturing both horses. After advancing about a mile farther we were attacked in the rear by a band of guerrillas numbering about 100, commanded by Holtzclaw and Anderson. We gave them fight, and fought them for fifteen minutes. During the engagement I had 7 men killed dead on the field, 2 wounded, and 3 missing. Two of the latter, I understand, are making their way back to this place. We also have had 6 horses killed and about the same number wounded. We do not know for certain of more than 6 of them being killed and 2 wounded. My men who fell into their hands were most barbarously massacred, four being scalped, one hung and scalped; three had their throats cut. Major Leonard being near I went to him and got assistance and returned to the battle-field, where we had another small engagement; we drove them back. My men were then brought to this place and buried here to-day in a respectable manner.

JOSEPH PARKE,
Captain, Commanding.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
Warrensburg.

No. 3.

Report of Lieut. William Argo, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

SEDALIA, *August 30, 1864.*

Captain Parke was attacked near Rocheport, Boone County, on Sunday last. Lost Lieutenant Dale, 6 men, and 3 missing. The band supposed to contain 200. The dead were brought to Boonville.

W. ARGO,
Lieutenant.

Major-General PLEASONTON

AUGUST 28, 1864.—Skirmish in Polk County, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *August 30, 1864.*

MAJOR: Mr. Worbridge and five boys arrived here last night from Batesville. Last Sunday week he states that Generals Adams, Shelby, and McCray, and Colonels Freeman, Dobbin, Campbell, Sewals, and one other, were there and on Round Bottom between there and Jacksonport, and that the arrangement was for the whole force, which he estimates at 3,500 armed men and four pieces of artillery, to meet at Powhatan and Smithville to-morrow with the idea of advancing into Missouri up Black River, and that they stated that Marmaduke was to cross the Arkansas River, west of Little Rock, and advance into this portion of the State with 5,000 men. These men came out to avoid the conscription. The enemy's horses are represented to be very poor, and his supplies of all kinds very short. I think the enemy are making movements mentioned, but whether with the view of crossing into this State or as feints to enable him to get safely across the Arkansas I cannot tell. Many of his conscripts have deserted. Some have come in and many are in the White River hills, which, I think, indicates the enemy is about to move south, and I have rumors from Arkansas that he has received such orders. Captain Pace, of the Tenth Missouri (rebel) Cavalry, formerly of Saint Joseph, was attacked on last Sunday, in Polk County, while proceeding north with seven men, by Captain Headlee and fifteen men of the Sixth Provisional Regiment, and Captain Pace and 1 man were killed, 1 wounded in arm and hands, and 1 taken prisoner. All in regular Confederate uniforms. Said they were going north to take part in the election this fall.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 29, 1864.—Attack on Steamer White Cloud, on the Mississippi River, near Port Hudson, La.

Report of Brig. Gen. George L. Andrews, U. S. Army, commanding Port Hudson, La.

PORT HUDSON, LA., *August 29, 1864.*

GENERAL: The steamer White Cloud was fired upon this a. m. by a battery and some riflemen on this side the river near an island below Bayou Sara. Her steampipe is reported cut by a shot which disabled her. She received five shots out of thirteen fired. No one hurt on board. The Choteau was fired upon higher up the river by a battery of eight pieces, two of which were 12-pounders; also by some riflemen. She received five shots; no one hurt; don't think either boat greatly damaged. The gun-boats 14 and 54 hastened to the scene of action.

GEO. L. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. M. K. LAWLER,
Morganza.

AUGUST 29–SEPTEMBER 3, 1864.—Expedition up White River from Helena, Ark., with affair (September 3) at Kendal's Grist-Mill, Ark.

Report of Col. John G. Hudson, Sixtieth U. S. Colored Troops.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTIETH U. S. COLORED INFANTRY,
Helena, Ark., September 4, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report, agreeably to instructions from headquarters District of Eastern Arkansas, dated Helena, Ark., August 29, 1864, which placed me in command, upon expedition up White River, and known as the expedition from Helena. This command was composed as follows: Major Carmichael, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, 125 men; Major Wells, Fifty-sixth U. S. Colored Infantry, 180 men; Captain Bancroft, Second U. S. Colored Light Artillery, Company E, one section, 45 men; Capt. Eli Ramsey, Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry, 150 men; total, 500 men. We embarked on steamers Dove and Hamilton Belle August 29 at 8 p. m. Arrived at mouth White River August 30, 6 a. m. Left mouth White River 8 a. m. and arrived at Maddox Bayou, where this command debarked at 6 p. m. August 31. Went in camp for the night one mile back from the river. Thursday, September 1, struck camp at 5 a. m.; marched thirty miles and camped at Mr. Brown's, on Clarendon and Helena road, at 7 p. m. Friday, September 2, struck camp at 6 a. m. Arrived at Big Creek, ten miles, at 3 p. m. Ferried half the cavalry, all the artillery and infantry, across in two hours. Left Wallace's Ferry, Big Creek, at 5 p. m., leaving half the cavalry to cross over after we had started with the balance of the command. Went into camp at Lick Creek 6 p. m. Saturday, September 3, struck camp at 6 a. m.; reached Helena 5 p. m., a march of seventeen miles, making in total from Maddox Bayou to Helena by land fifty-eight miles, making the march in three days. This command was two days on transports from Helena via White River to Maddox Bayou; total number of days out from Helena, five. We did not find any enemy until we reached Big Creek. Lieutenant Collins, in command of a company of the Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, was sent to burn Kendal's grist-mill on the 3d of September, when his command saw a rebel major who had a rebel escort of a lieutenant and sixteen of the Nineteenth Texas Cavalry, and captured one soldier of the party with two revolvers. The rest crossed on the east side of Big Creek and took to the canebrakes, where they escaped. The 2d of September one company of Dobbin's command left Trenton to join Dobbin, who was reported to be near Casa. Captain Swan was reported to be at Big Creek with a company of conscripts. He is doing picket duty there and gathering up conscripts for the rebel service. We captured 19 horses and 16 mules, and 17 head of beef-cattle. See Lieut. William A. E. Tisdale's (acting assistant quartermaster for the expedition), report marked A.* Sixty-five buildings were burnt down, including houses, cotton-gins, presses, and Kendal's grist-mill. I burnt nothing only known to be rebel buildings and where rebel soldiers were in the habit of quartering.

The following is the list of prisoners captured by the command: Charles E. Williams, citizen; William Guble, citizen; James F. Humphreys, citizen; T. W. Yates, discharged soldier; S. C. McComas, private Nineteenth Texas Cavalry.

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* Omitted.

By your direction I have turned all the mules and horses over to Capt. Henry T. Noble, assistant quartermaster. The beef-cattle I have turned over to Capt. D. P. Allen, acting commissary of subsistence, and two revolvers captured to ordnance officer. The prisoners I turned over to Maj. J. L. Murphy, provost-marshal.

Every command moved off without any trouble; perfect harmony during the whole expedition.

JOHN G. HUDSON,
Colonel Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry, Comdg. Expedition.

Lieut. F. E. SNOW,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Eastern Arkansas, Helena.

AUGUST 29–DECEMBER 2, 1864.—Price's Missouri Expedition.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

Aug. 29, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, C. S. Army, assumes command of the expeditionary forces at Princeton, Ark.

Sept. 19, 1864.—Price's column enters Missouri.
Affair at Doniphan, Mo.
20, 1864.—Skirmish at Ponder's Mill, Little Black River, Mo.
Surrender of Keytesville, Mo.
22, 1864.—Skirmish near Sikeston, Mo.
Affair at Patterson, Mo.
23, 1864.—Skirmishes near Rocheport, Mo.
24, 1864.—Attack on Fayette, Mo.
Skirmish at Jackson, Mo.
Skirmish at Farmington, Mo.
25, 1864.—Skirmish at Farmington, Mo.
Affair at Huntsville, Mo.
26, 1864.—Skirmishes in Arcadia Valley, Shut-in Gap, and Ironton, Mo.
27, 1864.—Affair at Centralia, Mo.
Skirmishes at Arcadia and Ironton, Mo.
Attack on Fort Davidson, Pilot Knob, Mo.
Skirmish at Mineral Point, Mo.
28, 1864.—Skirmish at Caledonia, Mo.
Skirmish near Centralia, Mo.
29, 1864.—Affair at Cuba, Mo.
29–Oct. 1, 1864.—Skirmishes at Leasburg or Harrison, Mo.

Oct. 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Union, Mo.
Skirmish at Franklin, Mo.
Skirmish near Lake Springs, Mo.
2, 1864.—Occupation of Washington, Mo.
3, 1864.—Affair at Miller's Station, Mo.
Skirmish at Hermann, Mo.
4, 1864.—Skirmish near Richwoods, Mo.
5–6, 1864.—Skirmishes on the Osage River, Mo.
7, 1864.—Skirmish at Moreau Creek, Mo.
Skirmish at Jefferson City, Mo.
Skirmish at Tyler's Mills, Big River, Mo.
8, 1864.—Skirmish near Jefferson City, Mo.
9, 1864.—Skirmish at Russellville, Mo.
Skirmish at Boonville, Mo.
Skirmish at California, Mo.
11, 1864.—Skirmish at Brunswick, Mo.

Oct. 11-12, 1864.—Skirmishes near Boonville, Mo.
14, 1864.—Skirmish near Glasgow, Mo.
15, 1864.—Action at Glasgow, Mo.
Affair at Sedalia, Mo.
Surrender of Paris, Mo.
16, 1864.—Capture of Ridgely, Mo.
17, 1864.—Skirmish near Lexington, Mo.
Surrender of Carrollton, Mo.
Burning of Smithville, Mo.
19, 1864.—Action at Lexington, Mo.
20, 1864.—Skirmish in Benton County, Ark.
Skirmish at Dover, Mo.
21, 1864.—Action at the Little Blue, Mo.
22, 1864.—Action at Independence, Mo.
Action at the Big Blue (Byram's Ford, etc.), Mo.
Action at State Line, Mo.
23, 1864.—Engagement at the Big Blue, Mo.
Engagement at Westport, Mo.
25, 1864.—Engagement at the Marais des Cygnes, Kans.
Engagement on Little Osage River, or Mine Creek, Kans.
Engagement at the Marmiton, or battle of Charlot, Mo.
Skirmishes at Mound City and Fort Lincoln, Kans.
25-Nov. 4, 1864.—Operations about Fayetteville, Ark.
26, 1864.—Skirmish near Glasgow, Mo.
Skirmish at Albany, Mo.
28, 1864.—Engagement at Newtonia, Mo.
29, 1864.—Skirmish at Upshaw's Farm, Barry County, Mo.
Nov. 6, 1864.—Skirmish at Cane Hill, Ark.
Dec. 2, 1864.—Price's command reaches Laynesport, Ark.

REPORTS, ETC.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the Missouri.
No. 2.—Itinerary of detachment of First and Third Divisions, Sixteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. Andrew J. Smith, U. S. Army, commanding.
No. 3.—Col. Phineas Pease, Forty-ninth Illinois Infantry.
No. 4.—Lieut. Col. Andrew W. Rogers, Eighty-first Illinois Infantry.
No. 5.—Lieut. Col. Jonathan Merriam, One hundred and seventeenth Illinois Infantry.
No. 6.—Capt. Eli Mattocks, Fifty-second Indiana Infantry.
No. 7.—Capt. William J. Campbell, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry.
No. 8.—Capt. John B. Gandolfo, One hundred and seventy-eighth New York Infantry.
No. 9.—Col. Edward F. Winslow, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, commanding Cavalry, Sixteenth Army Corps.
No. 10.—Lieut. Col. Frederick W. Benteen, Tenth Missouri Cavalry, commanding Fourth Brigade, Cavalry Division.
No. 11.—Maj. Benjamin S. Jones, Third Iowa Cavalry.
No. 12.—Maj. Abial R. Pierce, Fourth Iowa Cavalry.
No. 13.—Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding Provisional Cavalry Division.
No. 14.—Surg. Ferdinand V. Dayton, Second New Jersey Cavalry, Surgeon in Chief.
No. 15.—Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri and First Brigade, Cavalry Division.
No. 16.—Col. John F. Philips, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry, commanding First Brigade, Cavalry Division.

[a] For General Grant's reference to these operations, see Vol. XXXIV, Part I, p. 33.

No. 17.—Col. James McFerran, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 18.—Lieut. Col. Bazel F. Lazear, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 19.—Maj. Alexander W. Mullins, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 20.—Maj. George W. Kelly, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 21.—Capt. Oscar B. Queen, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 22.—Col. Rudolph Poser, Thirty-fourth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 23.—Capt. Francis Onken, Thirty-fourth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 24.—Capt. Charles D. Eitzen, Thirty-fourth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 25.—Capt. John Sullins, Thirty-fourth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 26.—Maj. Lewis H. Boutell, Forty-fifth Missouri Infantry.
No. 27.—Brig. Gen. John McNeil, U. S. Army, commanding District of Rolla and Second Brigade, Cavalry Division.
No. 28.—Surg. William H. H. Cundiff, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry, Acting Medical Director.
No. 29.—Col. John L. Beveridge, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 30.—Detachment Second Missouri Cavalry.
No. 31.—Lieut. Col. Joseph A. Eppstein, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 32.—Col. Edwin C. Catherwood, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry.
No. 33.—Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri and Third Brigade, Cavalry Division.
No. 34.—Capt. William T. Kittredge, U. S. Army, Assistant Adjutant-General.
No. 35.—Col. M. La Rue Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).
No. 36.—Col. John E. Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).
No. 37.—Lieut. Col. Hugh Cameron, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).
No. 38.—Lieut. Col. John F. McMahan, Sixth Cavalry Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 39.—Maj. William Plumb, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 40.—Maj. William B. Mitchell, Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 41.—Col. Joseph J. Gravely, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 42.—Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.
No. 43.—Lieut. Col. Dennis J. Hynes, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, Chief of Cavalry, District of North Missouri.
No. 44.—Capt. George A. Holloway, U. S. Army, Assistant Adjutant-General.
No. 45.—Lieut. Amos J. Harding, Sixth Missouri Cavalry, Aide-de-Camp.
No. 46.—Brig. Gen. Joseph B. Douglass, Missouri State Militia.
No. 47.—Brig. Gen. James Craig, Missouri State Militia.
No. 48.—Col. Chester Harding, jr., Forty-third Missouri Infantry.
No. 49.—Lieut. Col. Daniel M. Draper, Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 50.—Maj. Hiram Hilliard, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 51.—Lieut. Col. Thaddeus J. Stanber, Forty-second Missouri Infantry.
No. 52.—Lieut. Col. Samuel P. Cox, Thirty-third Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 53.—Lieut. Col. Edward A. Kutzner, Thirty-ninth Missouri Infantry.
No. 54.—Maj. George Deagle, Sixty-fifth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 55.—Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing, jr., U. S. Army, commanding District of Saint Louis.
No. 56.—Actg. Asst. Surg. Thomas W. Johnson, U. S. Army.
No. 57.—Lieut. Col. Hiram M. Hiller, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 58.—Capt. Adolph Tacke, Enrolled Missouri Militia.
No. 59.—Maj. James Wilson, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 60.—Maj. Samuel Montgomery, Sixth Missouri Cavalry.
No. 61.—Lieut. Samuel R. Kelley, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 62.—Capt. William C. F. Montgomery, Battery H, Second Missouri Light Artillery.

No. 63.—Brig. Gen. Edward C. Pike, Enrolled Missouri Militia, commanding First Military District.
No. 64.—Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Kansas.
No. 65.—Maj. Chapman S. Charlot, U. S. Army, Assistant Adjutant-General.
No. 66.—Maj. Samuel S. Curtis, Second Colorado Cavalry, Aide-de-Camp.
No. 67.—Maj. Thomas J. McKenny, U. S. Army, Inspector-General.
No. 68.—Maj. Robert H. Hunt, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, Chief of Artillery.
No. 69.—Lieut. George T. Robinson, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, Chief Engineer.
No. 70.—Maj. Samuel B. Davis, U. S. Army, Medical Director.
No. 71.—Maj. Theodore J. Weed, U. S. Army, Aide-de-Camp and Chief Commissary of Musters.
No. 72.—Col. William F. Cloud, Second Kansas Cavalry, Acting Aide-de-Camp.
No. 73.—Maj. Henry Hopkins, Second Kansas Cavalry.
No. 74.—Capt. Merritt H. Insley, U. S. Army, Assistant Quartermaster.
No. 75.—Capt. Edwin I. Meeker, U. S. Army, Chief Signal Officer.
No. 76.—Lieut. Josiah M. Hubbard, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, Acting Signal Officer.
No. 77.—Lieut. Cyrus M. Roberts, Seventy-eighth Ohio Infantry, Acting Aide-de-Camp.
No. 78.—Hon. James H. Lane, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.
No. 79.—Hon. Samuel C. Pomeroy, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.
No. 80.—Maj. Gen. James G. Blunt, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, Army of the Border.
No. 81.—Col. Charles R. Jennison, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding First Brigade.
No. 82.—Col. Thomas Moonlight, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade.
No. 83.—Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade.
No. 84.—Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry, commanding Fourth Brigade.
No. 85.—Maj. J. Nelson Smith, Second Colorado Cavalry.
No. 86.—Maj. Gen. George W. Deitzler, Kansas State Militia.
No. 87.—Brig. Gen. W. H. M. Fishback, commanding Fifth Brigade District, Kansas State Militia.
No. 88.—Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, C. S. Army.
No. 89.—Organization of Price's army.
No. 90.—Itinerary of Price's army, kept by Lieut. Col. Lauchlan A. Maclean, Assistant Adjutant-General.
No. 91.—Lieut. Col. John P. Bull, C. S. Army, Provost-Marshal.
No. 92.—Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army, commanding division.
No. 93.—Brig. Gen. M. Jeff. Thompson, C. S. Army, commanding Shelby's brigade.
No. 94.—Col. Sidney D. Jackman, Jackman's Missouri Cavalry, commanding brigade.
No. 95.—Brig. Gen. John B. Clark, jr., C. S. Army, commanding Marmaduke's division.
No. 96.—Col. Colton Greene, Third Missouri Cavalry, commanding Marmaduke's brigade.
No. 97.—Capt. Benjamin S. Johnson, Third Missouri Cavalry.
No. 98.—Col. John Q. Burbridge, Fourth Missouri Cavalry.
No. 99.—Lieut. Col. J. F. Davies, Davies' Missouri Battalion, commanding Seventh Missouri Cavalry and Davies' Battalion.
No. 100.—Col. Robert R. Lawther, Tenth Missouri Cavalry.
No. 101.—Casualties in Freeman's brigade.
No. 102.—Col. Charles H. Tyler, C. S. Army, commanding unarmed brigade.
No. 103.—Record of the Price Court of Inquiry.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, U. S. Army, commanding Department of the Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Saint Louis, December 7, 1864.

COLONEL: The commanding general of the military division is already informed by my current official dispatches of the principal incidents of the late campaign against Price in this department, but it is proper that I should submit a more detailed and connected report of the operations for a correct understanding of their extent and the importance of the results.

From early in the spring it was known through the lodges of the O. A. K.'s and other rebel sources that Price intended a great invasion of this State, in which he expected the co-operation of that order and of rebels generally, and by which he hoped to obtain important military and political results. In pursuance of these plans the lodges with rebel recruiting officers and agents sent into Missouri clandestinely, or under cover of the amnesty oath for that purpose, began an insurrection in Platte County on the 7th of July last. From that time guerrilla warfare raged in the river counties west from Callaway on the north and from Cooper on the south side of the Missouri. This department having been depleted of troops permission was obtained to raise volunteers to meet the exigencies of our situation, and under it about five complete and as many incomplete regiments of twelve-months volunteer infantry had been organized previously to the raid. On the 3d of September General Washburn sounded the tocsin by information that the force under Shelby at Batesville, Ark., was about to be joined by Price for the invasion of our State. The ripening of the corn lent to this additional color of probability, so that on the 6th, Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith passing Cairo with a division of infantry on the way to General Sherman, I telegraphed General Halleck the state of affairs, requesting orders for this division to halt at that point and wait until we could ascertain the designs of the enemy. The division was halted, and on the 9th General Smith received orders from General Halleck to "operate against Price & Co.," but deeming it impracticable to penetrate between 100 and 200 miles into Arkansas with a small column of infantry in pursuit of a large mounted force, the exact whereabouts as well as intentions of which were still unknown, he decided to move his command to a point near Saint Louis, whence he could readily move by rail or river and await Price's movements. From that time information accumulated showing the imminence of the raid. On the 23d we received certain information that Price had crossed the Arkansas with two divisions of mounted men, three batteries of artillery, a large wagon train carrying several thousand stand of small-arms, and was at or near Batesville on White River. From this point midway between the Mississippi and the western boundary of the State there are three practicable routes of invasion. One by Pocahontas into southeast Missouri, another by West Plains and Rolla or vicinity north toward Jefferson City, a third by Cassville north either through Springfield and Sedalia or by the Kansas border to the Missouri River. Strong military reasons favored the movements of their main force by the central route; while a detachment should go by Pocahontas and strip Southeastern Missouri. Under these circumstances my first object was to secure our great depots at Springfield and Rolla, the hay cut

during the summer, and our train of Government wagons required to maintain the troops in the Springfield district. To do this and as far as possible save the scanty agriculture of the country from devastation it was necessary to hold both Springfield and Rolla. Indeed, to have abandoned these points would have been not only to abandon the loyal people of those districts and their property to destruction, but to invite the enemy to destroy our trains while moving them, capture our stores, and beat our troops in detail. Generals Sanborn and McNeil were therefore informed and ordered to place the trains and public property of their districts under the protection of the fortifications at Springfield and Rolla, to put their forts in the best possible state of defense, using every foot and dismounted cavalry soldier, including citizens and local militia, to the best advantage, and with all their efficient mounted force to watch the enemy's motions and report the earliest indications of the direction of the coming storm. General Brown was ordered to concentrate all troops from the west of the Central District at Sedalia, to notify the citizen guards, and see that neither they nor their arms were exposed to capture. On the 24th Shelby was reported south of Pilot Knob, moving toward Farmington, with 5,000 men and four pieces of artillery. General Ewing was ordered to concentrate the troops in the southern part of his district at Pilot Knob and Cape Girardeau, and to verify the accuracy of this report, which proved true. On the 26th General A. J. Smith, with two of his brigades, was ordered to a point on the Iron Mountain Railroad "as far toward Pilot Knob as he deemed compatible with certainty that his position would not be turned," and the enemy get between him and Saint Louis. On the day before Sanborn had orders to move with all his mounted force to Rolla, it having become evident that the enemy would not probably strike west of that point. The safety of Saint Louis was vital to us. I therefore telegraphed Brig. Gen. H. E. Paine, commanding in Illinois, who promised me assistance from some regiments of returning 100-days' volunteers, who, though they had already served beyond their time, generously consented to come for the defense of the city. The enrolled militia of Saint Louis, though but skeleton regiments, were called out and the citizens also requested to organize and arm. General Ewing was sent to Pilot Knob, with directions to use his utmost exertions to find out whether any more than Shelby's division was in Southeast Missouri, and to that end to hold Pilot Knob until he was certain. With a soldierly comprehension of the importance of his duties, while reporting the current rumors of the advance of Price with his whole force, he expressed his doubts, and held his position until the 27th, when he sustained a terrific assault in Fort Davidson, a small field-work in the valley, surrounded by hills within cannon-range, which he held with about 1,000 men, one-half raw troops, establishing beyond question the presence of all Price's command in that quarter. He gloriously repulsed, killing and wounding some 1,500 of the enemy, and lost only 28 killed and 56 wounded, as appears from his report herewith. While Ewing's fight was going on Shelby advanced on Potosi, and thence to Big River bridge, threatening General Smith's advance, which withdrew from that point to within safer supporting distance of his main position at De Soto. Previous to and pending these events the guerrilla warfare in North Missouri had been raging with redoubled fury. Rebel agents, amnesty oath-takers, recruits, sympathizers, O. A. K.'s, and traitors of every hue and stripe, had warmed into life at the approach of the great invasion. Women's fingers were busy making clothes for rebel soldiers out of goods plundered by the guer-

rillas; women's tongues were busy telling Union neighbors "their time was now coming." General Fisk, with all his force, had been scouring the brush for weeks in the river counties in pursuit of hostile bands, composed largely of recruits from among that class of inhabitants who claim protection, yet decline to perform the full duty of citizens on the ground that they "never tuck no sides." A few facts will convey some idea of this warfare carried on by Confederate agents here, while the agents abroad of their bloody and hypocritical despotism—Mason, Slidell, and Mann in Europe—have the effrontery to tell the nations of Christendom our Government "carries on the war with increasing ferocity regardless of the laws of civilized warfare." These gangs of rebels, whose families had been living in peace among their loyal neighbors, committed the most cold-blooded and diabolical murders, such as riding up to a farm-house, asking for water, and, while receiving it, shooting down the giver, an aged, inoffensive farmer, because he was a radical "Union man." In the single Sub-District of Mexico its commanding officer furnished a list of near 100 Union men, who, in the course of six weeks, had been killed, maimed, or "run off" because they were "radical Union men or damned abolitionists."

About the 1st of September Anderson's gang attacked a railroad train on the North Missouri road, took from it twenty-two unarmed soldiers, many on sick leave, and after robbing placed them in a row and shot them in cold blood. Some of these bodies they scalped, and put others across the track and ran the engine over them. On the 27th this gang, with numbers swollen to 300 or 400, attacked Major Johnston with about 120 men of the Thirty-ninth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, raw recruits, and, after stampeding their horses, shot every man, most of them in cold blood. Anderson a few days later was recognized by General Price at Boonville as Confederate captain, and with a verbal admonition to behave himself, ordered by Colonel Maclean, chief of Price's staff, to proceed to North Missouri and destroy the railroads, which orders were found on the miscreant when killed by Lieutenant-Colonel Cox about the 27th of October ultimo.

On the 28th, when information of Ewing's fight and Price's presence at Pilot Knob came to hand, General Smith, discovering the enemy on his front moving to west and north, in pursuance of his orders to hold "the most advanced position compatible with the certainty of keeping between the enemy and Saint Louis," determined to leave De Soto and retire behind the Meramec, a stream which, at from ten to fifteen miles south of Saint Louis, offers considerable obstacle to the passage of a hostile force with wagons and artillery. General Ewing, finding Marmaduke's and Fagan's rebel divisions before him, and his position commanded by a numerically superior artillery, acting on suggestions made when discussing with him the possibilities of the position, on the night of the 27th spiked his heavy guns, blew up his magazine, ammunition, and supplies, and with the field battery and remains of his command retreated through the hills toward the Meramec Valley, hoping to reach a point on the railroad from whence he could move to Saint Louis. But, as will be seen from his reports, the enemy pursued him, harassed his rear on the march, which he directed along a ridge where the enemy could not flank him, and overtook him near Harrison's Station, where, seizing and extending the temporary defenses constructed by the militia, he displayed such vigor that after harassing him for thirty-six hours and making several attacks, on the approach of a detachment of Sanborn's cavalry the rebels left him and he escaped with all his command to Rolla. The enemy's strength and position thus developed, my

first business was to secure the points he could best strike—Saint Louis, Jefferson City, and Rolla. General Smith's 4,500 infantry and the mounted force we could raise, the Seventh Kansas, just in from Memphis, part of the Thirteenth Missouri Volunteer Cavalry, under Colonel Catherwood, and the recruits of Merrill's Horse, hastily mounted and organized, a total of 1,500 men, were all the force we could place between Saint Louis and an invading army of at least 15,000 mounted men, whose advance was within a day's march of the city. Meanwhile Brigadier-General Pike, ably seconded by Generals Wolff and Miller, of the Enrolled Missouri Militia, had assembled and armed skeletons of the First, Second, Third, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Tenth, Eleventh, Thirteenth, and Fifty-second Regiments of Enrolled Militia. The mayor and others, under the direction of the Hon. B. Gratz Brown and Major Ledergerber, organized the citizens exempt from militia duty, who volunteered for the defense of the city, into companies and regiments, numbering by the 30th some 4,000 or 5,000 men. The One hundred and thirty-second, One hundred and thirty-fourth, One hundred and thirty-eighth, One hundred and fortieth, and One hundred and forty-second Illinois (100-days' volunteers) also began to arrive on the 30th, and were all in by October 1 and formed into a brigade, under Colonel Wangelin, for the immediate defense of the city, beyond which they did not wish to serve, as all of them were out over time, and many having desirable offers as substitutes.

The enemy moving up by Potosi seemed to halt at Richwoods, about forty miles southwest of Saint Louis, in the hills between Big River and the Meramec, as if concentrating for an attack on the city. This appeared the more possible from the magnitude of his interest in it, and the fact that he did not show much force in the Meramec Valley, even on the 30th. On that day Major-General Smith was ordered to occupy Kirkwood, which commands the Richwoods road and crossing of the Meramec to Saint Louis, his cavalry to reconnoiter south and west, Colonel Merrill going as far as Franklin. General Fisk, previously ordered to join General Brown with all his available force, reached and reported from Jefferson City to-day. At the close of it news came that a brigade of rebel cavalry had burned the Moselle Bridge and were moving north toward Franklin. General Smith was ordered to send a brigade of infantry to support the cavalry at that point, and on the 1st of October Colonel Wolff, with his brigade, reached Franklin, and after a sharp skirmish drove the enemy from the place, but not until he had burned the depot.

The rebels were now apparently at bay with 1,500 cavalry and 4,500 infantry. General Smith was not in condition to attempt offensive movements against a force of 15,000 veteran mounted rebels who could reach Saint Louis from any point in the Meramec Valley where he might confront them in half the time it would take his infantry to reach it. Our obvious policy under these circumstances was to keep as close as possible to the enemy without risking Saint Louis until General Mower's command should arrive from Arkansas, or at least we be able to join to Smith's our mounted forces at Rolla. Every hour's delay of the enemy in the Meramec Valley brought Mower nearer and increased our chances of striking him as it did the security of Jefferson City. On the 2d the enemy was reported massing in the vicinity of Union, on the road either to Jefferson City or Rolla, and General Smith was ordered to Franklin. But as the enemy's movements appeared to tend westward, on the 3d General Smith was advanced to Gray's Summit and General Pike moved to Franklin. On the 4th General Smith pushed his cavalry toward the Gasconade, advanced his infantry to Union, fol-

lowed up by General Pike's militia. On the 5th Price's command took Hermann, burned the Gasconade bridge, and was crossing that stream at the old State Road Ford. General Smith followed him. General Mower reported his arrival at Girardeau out of supplies, his teams worn down, part of his cavalry dismounted, and many horses unshod. Transports and supply-boats were at once dispatched, and on the 8th and 9th his command reached Saint Louis, from whence the infantry was pushed forward by water as rapidly as the low stage of the river would permit to join General Smith. The cavalry under Winslow reshod and started by land from Saint Louis on the 10th toward Jefferson City, which point it reached on the 16th instant, one day in advance of the infantry. On the 6th the enemy began crossing the Osage at Castle Rock and one or two other fords, under cover of his artillery, opposed by Colonel Philips with the available cavalry at Jefferson City. While thus engaged Generals McNeil and Sanborn reached Jefferson City by a forced march with all the mounted force from Rolla, and uniting with Fisk and Brown gave us a garrison there of 4,100 cavalry and 2,600 infantry, mostly the new and partially organized twelve-months' men, with a few citizens and militia. As this force, though capable of giving a strong battle behind intrenchments, was not very formidable to act offensively against a veteran force like that of the enemy, it was decided by General Fisk, the other three generals concurring, to oppose a moderate resistance to the enemy's advance across the Moreau, a small stream with muddy banks and bad bottom, four or five miles east of the city, and then to retire and receive his attack at the defensive line, which with industry and good judgment had been prepared by the entire laboring force, civil and military, at Jefferson City. The enemy burned the Osage bridge and crossed the river on the 6th. On the 7th he advanced on the city, crossed the Moreau after sharp fighting, and developed a line of battle three or four miles long, east, south, and west of the place. But after reconnoitering its apparently formidable intrenchments, warned by his Pilot Knob experience in storming earth-works, he declined attacking, and passing his train in rear moved around, massing on the west, and finally retiring.

On the 8th General Pleasonton, on his arrival at Jefferson, under orders to assume command, dispatched General Sanborn with all the available cavalry, 4,100 men, to follow and harass the enemy until General Smith's command could come up. General Smith was informed of the rebel failure at Jefferson and directed to move by the most expeditious route to that place, where Mower's infantry were to join and the cavalry overtake him. He was to send all his cavalry, under Colonel Catherwood, in advance to report to Pleasonton, who, on its arrival, was to join Sanborn's and assume direction of the Provisional Cavalry Division thus formed. General Pike, with his militia, was charged with the control of the country and the defenses of our line of communication from Saint Louis to Jefferson City. Sanborn followed the rebels, attacked their rear guard at Versailles, where it was uncertain what course they would take, found they were going north toward Boonville, followed and drove them into line of battle near that place, and when he found himself nearly enveloped by their entire army, fell back out of their reach to meet Catherwood's command and his provisions, which both arrived at California on the 14th. The enemy taking advantage of this crossed the La Mine at Scott's and Dug Fords and moved north toward Arrow Rock. Sanborn immediately followed this movement by Georgetown bridge, keeping between the Pacific Railroad and the line of the enemy's march, and holding the line of the Black-

water, a western tributary of the La Mine, while Price, crossing a part of Shelby's command at Arrow Rock on the Boonville ferry-boat to the north side of the river, advanced on Glasgow, which he captured after a seven-hours' fight with a part of Colonel Harding's regiment, Forty-third Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and small detachments of the Ninth Missouri State Militia and Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry. On the 17th our cavalry, following his westward movement, keeping south of without pressing him, until Generals Smith's and Mower's troops could be brought up, kept the line of the Blackwater, and on the 17th reported themselves out of supplies and the enemy between Marshall and Waverly. On the 17th Mower's infantry, except two small regiments, arrived at Jefferson City and went at once by rail to La Mine bridge to join General Smith, who, passing Jefferson by land on the 14th, had followed the cavalry movement to that point, taking charge of the supplies which, in consequence of the destruction of the bridge by the rebels, could go by rail no farther. Winslow's cavalry, marching, reached Jefferson, the advance twenty miles beyond at California, on the 16th, and was ordered to join General Pleasonton without delay. On the 18th General Smith was ordered to move to Dunksburg near the cavalry headquarters, taking five days' rations and leaving minimum garrisons to guard and handle stores at Sedalia and La Mine bridge. The 19th found this movement accomplished, the cavalry with its center near Cook's Store, its right behind the Blackwater toward Marshall, and its left near Kirkpatrick's Mills toward Warrensburg. The enemy apparently hesitated in the vicinity of Marshall as if uncertain whether to go west or double on his tracks between Sedalia and Jefferson, but our cavalry advanced, receding a few miles to meet supplies and concentrate on the 17th and 18th, seemed to decide his movements toward Lexington, where General Curtis telegraphed me on the 19th the head of his column had arrived, General Blunt, after a sharp skirmish, retiring toward Independence and destroying the bridges in his rear. I informed General Curtis of our position; that our troops reported Price near Waverly; advised that Blunt check his advance at Wellington, and as soon as we were sure his main force was moving on Lexington we would endeavor by a forced march to strike him in the flank. To ascertain Price's real intentions General Pleasonton was directed to make a strong reconnaissance toward Waverly. The results of this reached me on the morning of the 20th, and Pleasonton was directed at once to push the center of his cavalry to Lexington, and General Smith, with his infantry, to support the movement. At 7 p. m. Pleasonton reported the enemy had left Lexington, going west, and McNeil and Sanborn entering the town. October 21 our cavalry advance followed the enemy to Fire Creek Prairie, Brown's and Winslow's brigades reaching Lexington at 2 p. m. and the infantry at 9 p. m. of the same day. General Curtis also reported a fight with the enemy's entire force at the Little Blue from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m., and that to prevent being flanked he should retire to the Big Blue, where his militia and artillery were in strong position. Supposing the enemy could not cross the Big Blue in the face of Curtis, I dispatched General Pleasonton my belief that he would move south, and that while McNeil's brigade should harass his rear, he, with the other three brigades, should move toward Lone Jack, near which would be General Smith's infantry, now marching from Lexington to Chapel Hill. At 10 p. m. a dispatch from Pleasonton informed me of the receipt of these conditional orders, and that the enemy in full force was moving far to the west, followed by his cavalry. October 22 Pleasonton's cavalry reached the Little Blue at

10 a. m.; found the bridge destroyed; a temporary one was constructed, the enemy's skirmishers driven, the command crossed, when the enemy opened with artillery, and was steadily driven toward Independence, which place was taken by a brilliant cavalry charge, in which Catherwood's regiment captured two guns complete. Near a hundred prisoners fell into our hands, and our troops pushed the enemy's rear guard all night. At 8 p. m. Pleasonton reports "all my brigades have been engaged; the enemy have left 40 killed and many sick and wounded in my hands. Heard nothing from Curtis. If Smith can come up in case we get a fight it will be well. Have sent McNeil's brigade to Little Santa Fé. Price is reported intrenched this side of the Big Blue. Fighting still going on with an obstinate rear guard. Let Smith come to this place." Reluctantly General Smith was dispatched to move to Independence, as requested, the messenger reaching him at Chapel Hill as he was putting his column in motion to march there in response to a direct message from General Pleasonton advising him of the posture of affairs.

On the morning of the 23d Pleasonton began to move on the enemy. At the crossing of the Big Blue, where the fight opened at 7 a. m. and continued until 1 p. m., when Shelby, who had been fighting General Curtis' command, finding Marmaduke and Fagan were giving away, turned on Pleasonton and "for a moment shook Sanborn's brigade," but by the skillful use of Thurber's battery, throwing double-shotted grape and canister, and the gallant charging of our troops, they were routed and fled southward, pushed by Generals Pleasonton and Curtis that night beyond Little Santa Fé. General Smith's command arriving at Independence at 5 p. m. was ordered to move that night by a forced march to Hickman Mills, hoping it would strike the enemy in flank while passing that point. Had he been ordered and marched for that point instead of Independence the day before General Smith would have arrived in time to strike the enemy's compact column and train with 9,000 infantry and five batteries. But it was too late. He did not reach the Mills until long after not only the enemy's but our own column had passed there. News from the cavalry fronts during the night showed that nothing remained but to push the enemy with our cavalry, allowing the infantry to follow as best it could to act as support in case of possible reverse to us or re-enforcements which were constantly reported on their way to meet the enemy. On the 24th, with the Kansas troops in advance, we pursued the enemy until within fifteen miles of the Trading Post, when, at General Curtis' request, General Pleasonton's command took the lead and at the end of a sixty-miles' march overtook the rebels about midnight, at the Marais des Cygnes; began skirmishing, and on the 25th, at 4 a. m., opened upon their bivouac with artillery, creating the greatest consternation, following it up by an attack which drove them promptly from the field, leaving in our hands horses, mules, wagons, arms, and some prisoners. Our troops followed them in a running fight until 2 p. m., when they came up with them at the Little Osage Crossing in position, with eight pieces of artillery on their line of battle. With the instinct of a true cavalry general, Pleasonton immediately ordered an attack by Benteen's and Philips' brigades, which by a magnificent charge completely routed them, capturing 8 guns, 2 stand of colors, Major-General Marmaduke, Brigadier-General Cabell, 5 colonels, many other officers, and near 1,000 prisoners, besides wagons, small-arms, &c. Sanborn's brigade, which was one mile and a half behind, and the Kansas troops still farther in the rear, did not arrive in time to take part in this battle, but Sanborn's brigade led

in the pursuit of the routed enemy, overtook them at a small stream a few miles beyond the battle-ground, charged them in the timber, drove them across it into the open prairie, where they formed in order of battle three lines deep. But such was the enthusiasm of the men of this brigade when they reached the edge of the wood and saw this triple line they charged it without orders, knocked it in pieces, and chased the fugitives until night closed the pursuit, and the enemy fled under cover of the darkness toward the Arkansas border. Besides the wagons captured during this day at the Marais des Cygnes, on the way to and at the Little Osage, the enemy had destroyed many, including ammunition-wagons, and for twenty-five or thirty miles beyond the Osage battle-field their route was strewn with debris of burning wagons and other property.

Pleasonton's cavalry had now been in motion almost day and night for six days, during which it had marched at least 204 miles and fought four battles. It was pretty well exhausted and broken down and went into Fort Scott that night for food and a little rest. He reported to me the results of his day's work, that the enemy was going at his utmost and his own troops were so broken down it would be impossible without fresh horses to strike the enemy another great blow this side of the Arkansas, and recommended that Generals Sanborn and McNeil follow, to support Curtis' troops in pursuit so long as there was any prospect of damaging the enemy, and then return to Springfield and Rolla. On the receipt of the news of the enemy's rout General Smith, whose command was out of provisions, was directed to move to Harrisonville and thence get supplies from Warrensburg, where 100 wagons were waiting with provisions for our command, sending 30,000 rations to the cavalry. Further reports of the enemy's condition satisfied me there would be no use of breaking down any more of our horses since General Curtis, whose cavalry horses were fresher than ours, supported by Sanborn and McNeil on their way down the State line, would be more than ample to deal with any resistance Price's command would offer this side of the Arkansas. Orders were accordingly given and General Pleasonton returned with Philips' brigade, the cannon, and part of the prisoners to Warrensburg. The Kansas troops and Benteen's brigade pursued the enemy's flying columns, a part of whom made their last stand at Newtonia, Mo., where General Blunt overtook and attacked them on the 28th, but was being worsted when Sanborn, having marched 102 miles in thirty-six hours, arrived in time to save the day. The enemy fled and made no further stand this side of the Arkansas. In a country destitute of food for man and beast, five times defeated, pursued 400 or 500 miles, with the loss of nearly all their artillery, ammunition, and baggage train, demoralization and destitution, and want of supplies would drive the rebels across the Arkansas for supplies at the risk of falling into the hands of Thayer's forces or Steele's cavalry, and if allowed would almost disintegrate and disband them on the way thither. General Curtis thought pushing them was best, and accordingly followed, although he did not again overtake them. At his urgent instance, against my own judgment as well as that of Generals Sanborn and McNeil, I pushed their two brigades down to the Arkansas border, whence Sanborn sent an advance to Fort Smith, reaching there on the morning of the 8th [November], to notify General Thayer of the enemy's desperate condition and the direction he had taken from Cane Hill toward the Indian Nation, between Fort Smith and Fort Gibson. Meanwhile at Sherman's request, followed by orders from the General-in-Chief, I directed Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith to

move his command by the most expeditious route to the Mississippi, in the vicinity of Saint Louis, there to embark and proceed to Nashville and report to Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas. On the 3d of November I returned to Saint Louis to be there during the election, and on the receipt of the news of the enemy having crossed the Arkansas directed the cavalry to repair to their respective districts and Winslow's cavalry to move by the best route and join General Thomas at Nashville.

In entering into details I have aimed to give the general commanding a sort of military photograph of our daily condition and movements as well for his critical judgment as for history, omitting events of whatever magnitude not having a bearing on our movements and most of the minor ones which did enter into their determination. I trust that the precautions taken in advance of Price's movements, the preparations before we knew where he was coming, the measures taken to secure our most important points and occupy him until we could concentrate the forces to strike him with a certainty of success outweighing any damage he could meanwhile do us, the energy and activity in concentration, vigor in pursuit, and fiery gallantry of our troops in battle, will receive the approbation of the general commanding the military division.

It will appear from these details and accompanying reports that our dismounted cavalry, infantry, and militia nobly performed their duty, watching, marching, and fighting whenever and wherever opportunity offered, that by their aid in holding our depots and supporting our mounted force we have saved all our important posts and most of the country from pillage, except a belt of some twenty miles wide along the route of the invasion, and with less than 7,000 effective cavalry have pursued, overtaken, beaten in several engagements, and finally routed an invading cavalry, variously estimated at from 15,000 to 26,000 men, re-enforced by 6,000 armed recruits from Missouri, taken from them 10 pieces of artillery, 2 stand of colors, 1,958 prisoners of war, a large number of horses, mules, wagons, and small-arms, compelled them to destroy most of their remaining wagons, train, and plunder, blasted all the political schemes of the rebels and traitors who concerted with Price to revolutionize Missouri, destroy Kansas, and turn the State and presidential election, against the Union cause, and by our triumph in the late elections have given to gallant and suffering Missouri the fairest prospect she has ever yet seen of future freedom, peace, and prosperity, all the fruits of a campaign of forty-eight days, in which most of our victorious troops had never before seen a great cavalry battle. Rarely during this or any other war has cavalry displayed more persevering energy in pursuit, more impetuous courage and gallantry in attacking, regardless of superior numbers, or had its efforts crowned with greater fruits of success. While paying a just tribute of thanks to all the officers and soldiers of the cavalry, artillery, infantry, militia, and citizen guards who served during the raid, for their prompt and cheerful obedience to all orders, whether to labor, march, or fight, I must refer to the accompanying reports of their commanders for special mention of individual gallantry. Major-General Pleasonton deserves the thanks of the country for the able manner in which he handled and fought the cavalry, and for the brilliant and fruitful victories he won over triple his own force. I hope he may receive promotion in the regular army. Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith deserves thanks for promptitude, energy, and perseverance in all his movements, and for the good judgment displayed in his campaign. Nor must I omit a tribute of admiration to those brave and true soldiers who, under

Mower, followed Price from Arkansas, marching 300 miles in eighteen days, and after going by boat from Cape Girardeau to Jefferson City, again resumed the march after him, making another march of 462 miles before they embarked for Nashville to take part in the not doubtful contest before that city for the mastery of Middle Tennessee. The district commanders all deserve my thanks for prompt and cordial co-operation in the measures precautionary and preparatory for the raid. General Ewing deserves special mention for military judgment, courage, and gallantry, in holding Pilot Knob till he had certainty of the enemy's force, as well as for the manner in which he withdrew his troops to Rolla. General McNeil for promptitude and energy in putting Rolla in a state of defense, and for moving with all force to Jefferson City in time to succor it. General Fisk for the prompt and cheerful discharge of very trying administrative duties, and for the energy and good sense in preparing the defenses of Jefferson City, as in the subsequent repair of La Mine bridge. General Brown displayed energy and good sense in preparing the city for a good defense, and General Sanborn for vigilance, energy, and soldierly judgment while commanding the cavalry advance between Jefferson City and Dunksburg, as well as throughout the campaign. Col. J. V. Du Bois, aide-de-camp, chief of staff; Captain Henry, assistant quartermaster of General Steele's staff, volunteer staff quartermaster in the field; Capt. G. Scull, chief commissary; Surg. P. V. Schenck, medical director in the field; Captain Hoelcke, acting aide-de-camp, engineer; Major Fischer, Fifth Missouri State Militia, on engineer duty; Capt. J. F. Bennett, assistant adjutant-general, and my personal aides, Maj. F. S. Bond, aide-de-camp, and Capt. R. S. Thoms, aide-de-camp, Captain Hills, Tenth Kansas, acting provost-marshal, accompanied me during the campaign, and were zealous and indefatigable in the discharge of their respective duties. Major McDermott, First Iowa Cavalry, who, with his battalion of First Iowa Cavalry, did such good service in North Missouri and behaved very gallantly in the pursuit of the rebels from Jefferson City to Boonville, commanded the escort from Sedalia, and deserves honorable mention. Brig. Gen. J. B. Gray, adjutant-general of Missouri, and Brigadier-General Pike, of the Enrolled, are entitled to public thanks for their valuable and indefatigable services in connection with the Enrolled Militia. Col. T. J. Haines, commissary of subsistence, to whom all the armies West, as well as the country, owe a debt of gratitude for invaluable services not likely to be overpaid, displayed his usual promptitude and foresight in providing for the wants of our troops and depots. Col. William Myers, chief quartermaster, in supplying animals, fitting up trains, and providing for the wants of our troops, exhibited his characteristic care and skill.

I must also mention the voluntary services of those tried veterans, Colonel Wangelin, late of the Twelfth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and Colonel Laiboldt, who did all in their power to aid in the defense of Saint Louis. Senator B. Gratz Brown and Mayor Thomas, seconded by the efforts of many patriotic citizens of all classes, did much to prepare for the defense of the city, and deserve my thanks. I should be glad to call the general's attention to many militia officers, such as General Craig, whose able management in the northwest, in the absence of General Fisk, Colonel Gale, who so promptly organized his militia regiment (Fifty-fourth Enrolled Missouri Militia) at Franklin, and many others scattered over the State, who rendered great service to the country. But as the chief motive of these officers and the men of their commands was their country's good the consciousness of duty manfully performed must be their chief reward, until the day comes when our chil-

dren, pointing to them as to others who have borne arms in this great national struggle, shall say, "There go some of the men who helped to save our nation."

The accompanying reports show our total losses in this campaign were 164 killed, of whom 116 were murdered at Centralia, 336 wounded, 171 prisoners, of whom many, if not all, are illegally paroled, 681 hors de combat, besides which there were several small squads of prisoners illegally captured and paroled in Southeast Missouri, and the troops at Glasgow whose surrender was, I think, justifiable and possibly lawful.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHRISTENSEN,
A. A. G., Mil. Div. of West Mississippi, New Orleans, La.

ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
No. 216. } *Saint Louis, Mo., December 2, 1864.*

I. The conduct of the militia under Actg. Lieut. Col. S. P. Cox and Major Grimes in pursuing Bill Anderson's band of bushwhackers, killing Anderson and dispersing his band, as reported by Brig. Gen. James Craig, Enrolled Missouri Militia, displays so much spirit, energy, and bravery on the part of citizens, giving their services and risking their lives for the public good without fee or reward, as to call for the special thanks of the major-general commanding the department.

II. In consideration of their gratuitous services, and as a reward for their gallantry, it is therefore ordered that the property taken by these citizens from the robbers be distributed under the direction of Brigadier-General Craig, as follows:

The horse ridden by Bill Anderson and the watches and arms taken will be given to the several officers of the command, to be retained as honorable trophies. The money captured will be given in just proportions to the wounded of the command and to the families of such as were killed in the affair.

III. Brigadier-General Craig will furnish these headquarters with a certified list of all property disposed of under this order, reporting the manner of its distribution and the names and rank of the officers and soldiers who have received it.

By command of Major-General Rosecrans:

FRANK ENO,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
No. 220. } *Saint Louis, Mo., December 8, 1864.*

I. The reports of the commanders of troops in the late campaign against Price, delayed till now by the necessities of the case, furnish a record so brilliant of arduous service and gallant fighting, that the commanding general deems it a duty to express to the officers and men of his command his admiration of their behavior, and to congratulate them and their fellow-citizens on the result.

II. Vague rumors and threats of an invasion of Missouri by Price had been in circulation for months among rebels, bushwhackers, and "O. A. K.'s."

About the 21st of September these rumors ripened into certainty by the information that Price, crossing the Arkansas with two divisions

of cavalry and three batteries of artillery, had joined Shelby near Batesville, sixty miles south of the line of our State, and would invade us with from 15,000 to 20,000 veteran mounted men.

We had then about 6,500 mounted men for field duty in the department, scattered over a country 400 miles long and 300 broad, which, with the partially-organized new infantry regiments and our dismounted men, constituted the entire force to cover our great depots at Saint Louis, Jefferson City, Saint Joseph, Macon, Springfield, Rolla, and Pilot Knob, guard our railroad bridges against this invasion and protect, as far as possible, the lives and property of our citizens from the guerrillas who swarmed over the whole country bordering on the Missouri River. Fortunately, Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith's troops, passing Cairo toward Nashville, at the urgent solicitation of the general commanding, were ordered to halt and oppose Price, thus giving us 4,500 veteran infantry.

III. Unable to concentrate until the point was determined where the enemy would strike, without surrendering all the remaining portion of the State, you could only make preliminary preparations and await the coming storm, while the Enrolled Missouri Militia, which had never yet failed to respond to the call of patriotism, prepared to defend their homes against the invader and his traitor friends in our midst.

IV. When Springfield appeared safe from the blow, General Sanborn moved with all his available cavalry to re-enforce Rolla, where General McNeil was preparing to secure our depots and great supply trains, while Ewing and his band of heroes, the young Forty-seventh Missouri Infantry, detachments of the First, Second, and Third Missouri State Militia, the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, and Battery H, Second Missouri Light Artillery, by their grand defense of Pilot Knob, September 27, proved the presence of the enemy's entire force in Southeast Missouri, gave him the first staggering blow, and allowed time for the Enrolled Missouri Militia and citizens of Saint Louis to prepare for its defense, then covered only by General Smith's infantry and three regiments of cavalry, thrown as far as practicable toward the enemy.

V. The zeal and energy of the citizens, aided by the timely arrival of the One hundred and thirty-second, One hundred and thirty-fourth, One hundred and thirty-sixth, One hundred and thirty-ninth, One hundred and fortieth, and One hundred and forty-second Illinois Regiments (100 days' volunteers), who generously and promptly came to our assistance, soon put us at ease about the safety of Saint Louis, and struck the second blow to the invasion. The gallant First, Second, Third, Fourth, Tenth, Eleventh, Thirteenth, Eightieth, and Eighty-fifth Regiments of Enrolled Missouri Militia, and the National Guard of Saint Louis, under Generals Pike, Wolff, and Miller, organized to support General Smith's infantry, and roll the rebel tide westward.

General Brown concentrated at Jefferson City the troops of the Central District, and re-enforced by General Fisk, with all available troops north of the Missouri, prepared for the defense of the capital of the State, the citizens of which vied with the military in their enthusiastic exertions to bring the great invasion to naught.

The enemy, after waiting at Richwoods for a day or two and threatening Saint Louis, started for the State capital, accompanied by Tom Reynolds, Trusten Polk, and other Missouri traitors, to inaugurate another bogus election. McNeil and Sanborn, moving with all their available cavalry, by forced marches reached the point of danger a few miles in advance of him, and uniting with Fisk and Brown saved Jefferson City, and struck the third blow to the hopes of the invaders and traitors, who had boasted they would plant themselves there and hold the State.

VI. On the 8th of October, when General Pleasonton assumed command at Jefferson City, he sent Sanborn with all his mounted force, 4,100 strong, to follow the rebel track and harass them until all our remaining cavalry could join you, and the infantry supports come up. You drove the enemy's rear guard upon their main force in line of battle near Boonville, and bearded them in position with a force of only 5,500 men. Pursuing their retreat westward, and keeping them between you and the Missouri River, without an opportunity to double on their track, you waited the arrival of Winslow's command, 1,500 strong, which followed the enemy from Arkansas, and when, on the 19th, it joined, forming the Provisional Cavalry Division of 6,500 men, exclusive of escort guards, under General Pleasonton, you moved on the foe for battle and victory, overtook and gave them the first sweet taste of your sabers on the 22d, at Independence, where you routed Fagan and captured two of his guns. On the 23d you forced the passage of the Big Blue, fought them from 7 in the morning until 1 p. m. Their advance quitting Curtis then fell upon you, when by the combined use of Thurber's double-shotted canister and the saber you routed their main force, and by dark had thrown them beyond Little Santa Fé.

On the 24th, at midnight, after marching some sixty miles, with little water, except the rain on your backs, and less food for men or horses, you again overtook them at the Marais des Cygnes, began skirmishing, and at 4 a. m. on the 25th, opening with artillery, routed them with loss: capturing mules, horses, &c. Thence, in a running fight, you pursued them to the Little Osage Crossing, where two advanced brigades, under Benteen and Philips, charged two rebel divisions, routed them, captured eight pieces of artillery, and near 1,000 prisoners, including Generals Marmaduke and Cabell. Sanborn's brigade again led in pursuit, overtook them and made two more brillant charges, driving everything before it, across the Marmiton, whence the enemy fled, under cover of night, toward the Arkansas. After thus marching 204 miles in six days and beating the enemy, his flying columns were pursued toward the Arkansas by the Kansas troops and Benteen's brigade, while Sanborn, following, marched 104 miles in thirty-six hours, and on the 28th reached Newtonia, where the enemy made his last stand, in time to turn the tide of battle which was going against General Blunt, again routing the enemy, and giving the final blow to the greatest cavalry raid of the war.

VII. The substantial results of this brilliant series of operations are, that while our infantry and dismounted men nobly performed their share of the work by fighting at Pilot Knob and Glasgow, holding the depots and important points, and backing your hazards, the enemy, entering the State with a mounted force of veteran troops, variously estimated at from 15,000 to 26,000, and eighteen pieces of artillery, with vast expectations of revolutionizing the State, destroying Kansas, and operating on the Presidential election, after having added to his force 6,000 Missourians, which General Marmaduke told General Pleasonton were armed and organized into a division, has been defeated in all his schemes, his mischief confined to the narrow belt of country over which he passed, and routed by you in four engagements, he has lost ten pieces of artillery, a large number of small-arms, nearly all his trains and plunder, and, besides his killed, wounded, and deserters, 1,958 prisoners, which we have now in possession, and the latest reports confirm the statement that when the enemy's forces recrossed the Arkansas, demoralization, desertion, and losses had reduced their strength to less than 5,000, but partially armed and mounted, with three pieces of

artillery, and their horses in the most wretched condition. All this has been accomplished by less than 7,000 cavalry, most of whom never before saw a great battle, and your entire loss in killed, wounded, and missing is only 346 officers and men. The records of this war furnish no more brilliant and decisive results.

VIII. To Major-General Pleasonton and the officers and soldiers of the Provisional Cavalry Division, by whom this work was wrought, the general commanding tenders his thanks for their gallantry and efficiency in the campaign, and congratulates them on having acquired the true spirit of cavalry service.

He also returns his thanks to the district commanders, to the officers and soldiers of our infantry and artillery, and the Enrolled Militia, and to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith and his command for the zeal and energy with which they performed all the duties devolving upon them in the campaign which brought to naught Price's formidable raid and defeated the schemes of the rebels and traitors in Missouri and elsewhere against the State and the Nation.

IX. A department order will announce the regiments entitled, and the names of the engagements they are to inscribe on their banners.

By command of Major-General Rosecrans:

FRANK ENO,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

*Itinerary of detachment of First and Third Divisions, Sixteenth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. Andrew J. Smith, U. S. Army, commanding.**

FIRST DIVISION, COMMANDED BY COL. JOSEPH J. WOODS, TWELFTH IOWA VOLUNTEERS.

During the past month this division has been actively engaged as a portion of the army pursuing the rebel General Price through Missouri. Marching has been almost continuous and very hard, making as high as thirty-three miles per day.

SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, COMMANDED BY COL. LUCIUS F. HUBBARD, FIFTH MINNESOTA INFANTRY.

October 1.—The command left its bivouac on Black River, near Poplar Bluff, Mo., marching via Greenville, Jackson, and Dallas.

October 5.—Arrived at Cape Girardeau.

October 8.—Embarked on transports and moved to Jefferson City, Mo.

October 15.—Arrived at Jefferson City and moved the same day by railroad to La Mine Bridge.

October 19.—Left the La Mine, marching via Sedalia to Lexington; thence via Independence and Little Santa Fé to Harrisonville, reaching that point on the 26th.

October 30 and 31.—Marched toward Warrensburg, bivouacking on the night of the 31st near the Pacific Railroad, two miles west of Holden Station.

Distance marched, 283 miles; distance traveled by transports and railroad, 360 miles; total, 643 miles.

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* From October returns.

THIRD BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, COMMANDED BY COL. SYLVESTER G. HILL, THIRTY-FIFTH IOWA INFANTRY.

October 1.—Marched at 7 a. m. from near Poplar Bluff, Mo., toward Greenville, Mo., thirteen miles; command on three-quarter rations.

October 2.—Marched at 6 a. m.; forded the Saint Francis River; encamped at Greenville; fourteen miles.

October 3.—Marched on Cape Girardeau road; seventeen miles.

October 4.—Marched at 2 a. m.; a forced march; raining and roads bad; encamped at 8 p. m. on White Water Creek; thirty miles.

October 5.—Marched to Cape Girardeau; eighteen miles; encamped one mile below town. This concludes a march of 317 miles in nineteen days from Brownsville, Ark.

October 7.—Embarked on boats for Saint Louis.

October 9.—Re-embarked at Saint Louis for Missouri River.

October 18.—Landed at Jefferson City, Mo., and moved by cars to La Mine Bridge.

October 19.—Marched via Sedalia to Roletta; went into camp at 11.30 p. m.; nearly the whole command left by the roadside exhausted; thirty-three miles.

October 20.—Marched sixteen miles.

October 21.—Marched into Lexington; twenty-five miles.

October 22.—Marched southwest twenty-four miles.

October 24.—Marched at 1 a. m. via Independence to Big Blue River; eighteen miles.

October 25.—Marched via Little Santa Fé, Kans.; fifteen miles.

October 26.—Marched to Harrisonville, Mo.; twenty-three miles.

October 27 to 29.—Remained in camp waiting supplies.

October 30.—Marched to Pleasant Hill, Mo.; twelve miles.

October 31.—Marched to Chapel Hill, Mo.; sixteen miles; went into camp at 9 p. m.

THIRD DIVISION, COMMANDED BY COL. DAVID MOORE, TWENTY-FIRST MISSOURI INFANTRY.

October 2.—This division left Jefferson Barracks, forming part of the command under Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith; moved through the State of Missouri to Harrisonville, and from there took up line of march for Saint Louis.

Mustered for pay at Pleasant Hill, Mo., on the 31st instant.

Distance marched during the month, 375 miles.

FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, COMMANDED BY COL. THOMAS J. KINNEY, ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY.

October 2.—The brigade moved from Jefferson Barracks to Gray's Summit, a distance of some thirty miles.

October 4.—Reached that place. Here we halted until the 7th, when the command moved on in pursuit of Price's rebel forces, marching at the rate of fifteen to twenty miles from Kansas City, Mo., then moving to Harrisonville, where we halted until the 30th (three days).

October 30.—Moved to Pleasant Hill, where the brigade now is, under orders to march by Lexington, Waverly, Glasgow, Fayette, Columbia, Danville, and Warrenton to Saint Charles, Mo.

SECOND BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, COMMANDED BY COL. JAMES I. GILBERT, TWENTY-SEVENTH IOWA INFANTRY.

October 1.—Found this command at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

October 2.—Marched in the morning, forming a part of the command under Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, to Kirkwood; thirteen miles.

October 3.—Marched to Dutch Holland; eighteen miles.

October 4.—Marched to Summit Station; ten miles.

October 5 and 6.—Lay in camp.

October 7.—Marched to Cedar Creek; ten miles.

October 8.—Marched on Jefferson City road; eighteen miles.

October 9.—Lay in camp.

October 10.—Marched on Jefferson City road, fording Gasconade River; eighteen miles.

October 11.—Marched to Big Mary Creek; twenty-two miles.

October 12.—Marched to Moreau Creek; nineteen miles.

October 13.—Passing through Jefferson City, nine miles. west; thirteen miles.

October 14.—Marched to California, passing Lookout Station; seventeen miles.

October 15.—Lay in camp.

October 16.—Marched to La Mine Bridge; twenty-four miles.

October 17.—Lay in camp.

October 18.—Marched, passing Sedalia two miles toward Georgetown; eighteen miles.

October 19.—Marched on Lexington road, passing Georgetown; fifteen miles.

October 20.—Marched on Lexington road to Deer Creek; seventeen miles.

October 21.—Marched into Lexington; twenty-three miles.

October 22.—Marched on Harrisonville road fourteen miles and took the Independence road; seventeen miles.

October 23.—Marched on Independence road eighteen miles.

October 24.—At midnight passing Independence to Big Blue River; fifteen miles.

October 25.—Marched south, passing Santa Fé, and encamped on Big Blue; fifteen miles.

October 26.—Marched at 3.30 o'clock in the morning and passed one mile beyond Harrisonville; twenty-six miles.

October 27 to 29.—Lay in camp.

October 30.—Marched on the Warrensburg road to within one mile of Pleasant Hill; eleven miles.

October 31.—Mustered for pay and marched toward Wellington to Big Snibar River; twelve miles.

The command has thus marched during the month 369 miles, and is now in camp for the night, en route for Lexington.

THIRD BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, COMMANDED BY COL. EDWARD H. WOLFE, FIFTY-SECOND INDIANA INFANTRY.

October 1.—Engaged in a skirmish at Franklin, Mo., lasting a half hour, resulting in driving the rebels.

October 5.—Marched to Gray's Summit.

October 7.—Took up line of march for Jefferson City.

October 8.—Passed through Union City.
October 10.—Crossed Gasconade River.
October 11.—Passed through Linn.
October 12.—Reached Jefferson City; same night proceeded by rail to California; encamped there three days.
October 16.—Proceeded through Tipton and Syracuse to Otterville.
October 18.—Marched through Farmer and Smith City to Sedalia.
October 19.—Marched through Georgetown.
October 21.—Reached Lexington.
October 23.—Made a forced march of forty-five miles, passing through Independence about midnight.
October 25.—Crossed the Kansas line at Little Santa Fé.
October 26.—Reached Harrisonville.
October 30.—Started on return march.
October 31.—Reached Pleasant Hill. Command divided into two columns, one regiment moving toward Independence and the rest of the brigade toward Cogswell's Landing, Missouri River.
Entire distance marched during the month, 400 miles.

No. 3.

Report of Col. Phineas Pease, Forty-ninth Illinois Infantry.

HDQRS. FORTY-NINTH REGT. ILLINOIS INFTY. VET. VOLS.,
Franklin, Mo., October 2, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command in the action at Franklin, Mo., October 1, 1864:

Left the train of cars about two miles east of town, and forming in rear of Fifty-second Indiana Infantry Veteran Volunteers, advanced steadily and for the purpose of supporting said regiment should they become heavily engaged. Company A, Captain Cogan commanding, was deployed on right of and joining skirmish line of Fifty-second Indiana; Company B, Lieutenant Stanley commanding, was deployed in same manner on the left. The regiment moved in the above order until near the town, when it was advanced and joined on the right of the Fifty-second Indiana, and in that order entered the town and halted on the right of the railroad west of and near the depot, where it went into camp for the night.

The following is a list of casualties in Forty-ninth Regiment Illinois Infantry Veteran Volunteers: David W. Thurman, private, Company I, wounded slightly in left elbow.

Respectfully submitted.

P. PEASE,
Colonel, Comdg. Forty-ninth Illinois Infantry Veteran Vols.

Lieut. JAMES D. COBINE,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., 3d Brig., 3d Div., 16th Army Corps.

No. 4.

Report of Lieut. Col. Andrew W. Rogers, Eighty-first Illinois Infantry.

HDQRS. EIGHTY-FIRST ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
Warrensburg, Mo., October 30, 1864.

SIR: In accordance with instructions just received I have the honor to make the following report of my movements while on the recent reconnaissance by instructions from Colonel Moore, commanding post:

Maj. S. A. Garth, battalion Ninth Missouri Cavalry, two companies, reported to me for duty at 5 a. m. the 29th. I marched from town, taking the Columbus road, distant twelve miles. Arriving there, I secreted my command in the woods, sending out scouting parties on various roads, to the distance of four and five miles, but finding no indications of an enemy, I then moved my command seven miles up the Lexington road, watching all the roads closely until at this point, being the road crossing at the uppermost bridge that an enemy would cross at going southward. Then turning an east and southeastward direction we traveled along and crossed all roads that an enemy would travel on if going in the direction anticipated. Taking the Lexington and Warrensburg road at Hazle Hill at dark, ten miles northeast of Warrensburg, camped for the night. At 8 a. m. the morning of the 30th we again took up the line of march, arriving at this place at about 10 a. m. to-day, having had a right fatiguing march of seventy-five miles without seeing or hearing anything of an enemy. There are no indications of an enemy in that section of country save a few bush-whacking and irresponsible bands of men that disband on the approach of an armed force

A. W. ROGERS,
Lieutenant-Colonel Eighty-first Illinois Volunteers.

Capt. J. H. WETMORE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 5.

Report of Lieut. Col. Jonathan Merriam, One hundred and seventeenth Illinois Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS 117TH REGIMENT ILLINOIS INFANTRY,
Franklin, Mo., October 2, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command in the action of October 1 at this place:

At 10 a. m. I received an order from the colonel commanding to take my command off the cars and move forward in the rear of the Forty-ninth Illinois. After coming within range of the enemy's artillery I deployed the regiment into line of battle and moved forward as before. From the nature of the ground my command was obliged to move in the rear of the other troops and did not become directly engaged. The casualties in the regiment during the day were Andrew J. Nash, private, Company B, contusion in breast by musket-ball, and Samuel I. Grant, private, Company D, slightly wounded in head by musket-ball.

I have the honor to be, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. MERRIAM,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Lieut. JAMES D. COBINE,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., 3d Brig., 3d Div., 16th Army Corps.

No. 6.

Report of Capt. Eli Mattocks, Fifty-second Indiana Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTY-SECOND INDIANA VOLUNTEERS,
Franklin, Mo., October 2, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken in the skirmish near Franklin, Mo., on the 1st instant:

I disembarked my regiment about one mile and a half from the village, formed on the Franklin road, deploying Company A, under command of Captain Bodkin, as skirmishers, who had scarcely deployed before skirmishing commenced. My regiment was now formed at right angles with and across the road. Company B was ordered forward to support the skirmish line, which was steadily driving the enemy's skirmishers. When near the railroad Companies F and D were sent forward to strengthen the skirmish line, the regiment crossing and moving up along the railroad by the right flank until after passing the water-tank, when I deployed my regiment in line again, advancing steadily, the skirmishers driving the rebel line under a brisk fire. When near the town the enemy's line of battle could be seen drawn up in town. They opened with three pieces of artillery, firing but a few shots and with no effect. The men had been ordered to lie down. The skirmish line had been halted and was now ordered forward and continued steadily driving the enemy through and some distance out of town, when a halt was ordered. The regiment remained in line where first halted until late in the evening, when it was ordered back a short distance and went into camp.

The following is a list of casualties, viz: Private Thomas Harrall, Company A, gunshot wound in right thigh, severe; Private B. S. Blue, Company F, gunshot wound in right shoulder, severe; Private Harrison Crawford, Company G, gunshot wound in head, severe; Private Samuel Shepherd, Company G, wounded by piece of shell, slight.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ELI MATTOCKS,
Captain, Comdg. Fifty-second Indiana Veteran Volunteers.

Lieut. JAMES D. COBINE,
Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen., 3d Brig., 3d Div., 16th Army Corps.

No. 7.

Report of Capt. William J. Campbell, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH IOWA INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS,
Rolla, Mo., October 3, 1864.

On the 25th [September] I moved with my command by rail on the Iron Mountain road. By order I detached and left at various stations, from Jefferson Barracks to Mineral Point, Mo., five companies of my command, namely, Companies A, G, H, I, and K. Encamped at Mineral Point on the night of the 25th. Proceeded from thence on the morning of the 26th, with Companies B, C, D, and E, to Pilot Knob, Mo., whence we marched to Ironton, distant one mile, where we encamped during the night of the 26th of September.

On the morning of the 27th, at early daylight, the enemy appeared in force, when they were engaged by two pieces of the Second Missouri

Battery. The enemy being too strong in numbers we were compelled to fall back, which was done in good order to the southeast point of Shepherd's Mountain, where our forces again formed line of battle under command of Major Wilson. Here I was joined by a detachment of eighteen men of Company H, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry. I was ordered, with my command, to occupy the summit of Shepherd's Mountain, which I did. At this point I had a brisk skirmish with the enemy, who attempted to flank my position, and I fell back to the rifle-pits of Fort Davidson, where I remained till I was ordered, at 1 p. m., to occupy the face of Shepherd's Mountain south of the fort. I held that position till the enemy attacked me in heavy force, and I was compelled to fall back within the fort, when a general engagement commenced.

On the morning of the 28th, at 2 a. m., by order of Brigadier-General Ewing, I moved my command in advance, and took up line of march on the Caledonia road, arriving at Webster, distant thirty miles, where we encamped. On the 29th of September, at 1 a. m., took up line of march, covering the retreat with my command to Leasburg, distant thirty-six miles. About 10 a. m. the enemy attacked our rear guard of cavalry, and drove them in. I immediately formed line of battle, and checked the advance of the enemy. The column moved forward, and I covered the retreat, with continual skirmishing the entire way. Arriving at Leasburg at sunset my command was formed in line of battle on the left, facing the enemy, where we remained encamped during the night. On the 30th of September commenced building temporary fortifications, which were occupied till the morning of October 2, at 2 o'clock, when we took up our line of march for Rolla, Mo., distant thirty-one miles, where we arrived at 6 p. m., and are encamped at the present time.

The officers and men of my command behaved with the utmost coolness and bravery during the several engagements in which we took part. First Lieut. Hugo Hoffbauer, acting adjutant, has my warmest thanks for the manner in which he conducted himself, and the valuable service rendered by his untiring energy during the several engagements, and while on the march.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. J. CAMPBELL,
Captain Company K, Comdg. Fourteenth Iowa Infty. Vols.

Lieut. G. D. O. KELLMAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 8.

Report of Capt. John B. Gandolfo, One hundred and seventy-eighth New York Infantry.

HDQRS. 178TH NEW YORK VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
Franklin, Mo., October 3, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with instructions received, I have the honor to report the following part taken by my command in the action of the 1st instant near this place:

Upon the arrival of the command near this town I was assigned to the duty of guarding the trains. My command was distributed among the trains for the better protection thereof, and one company (G) sent

as pickets upon a road to the north, to prevent any surprise from that quarter. Later in the day I received orders to follow the rest of the brigade to the town, where my command was encamped. I have to report no casualties.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. GANDOLFO,
Captain, Commanding 178th New York Volunteers.

Lieut. JAMES D. COBINE,
Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen., 3d Brig., 3d Div., 16th Army Corps.

No. 9.

Reports of Col. Edward F. Winslow, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, commanding Cavalry, Sixteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., CAV. CORPS, DIST. OF WEST TENN.,
October 23, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of detachments of about 2,000 men of my command:

Under instructions from Maj. Gen. C. C. Washburn, commanding District of West Tennessee, I crossed the Mississippi River at Memphis, Tenn., with about 1,900 officers and men of my division, the detachments from First Brigade in charge of Col. Joseph Kargé, and those from the Second under command of Lieut. Col. George Duffield, Third Iowa Cavalry. Marched at noon of the 2d of September, moving on the military road to Clarendon, 100 miles, arriving at 11 a. m. 6th instant, having bridged four bayous and ferried one—Black Fish—where seven men of the Fourth Missouri Cavalry, one negro, and four horses were drowned by the sinking of the boat. The Saint Francis and L'Anguille Rivers were forded without trouble. It would be quite impracticable to move a column by this route during the wet season. On the 7th instant [ultimo] I was directed by Major-General Steele, commanding Department of Arkansas, to move to Brownsville, and being ferried over the White River, marched to that point, thirty-nine miles, arriving on the 9th instant [ultimo] at noon. I had sent about 100 men and animals from Clarendon by river to Memphis, and on my departure therefrom left 150 men sick and dismounted, with about 100 horses, at Brownsville. During our stay at this point many of my men became ill, the weather being very warm and the water very bad. The animals were insufficiently supplied with forage. Notwithstanding every possible effort was made I could not get my animals shod, and because of this many were abandoned during the march to Cape Girardeau. Colonel Kargé was left at Brownsville sick, and the command of his brigade devolved on Major Simonson, Seventh Indiana Cavalry. The Second New Jersey Cavalry, about 250 men, which I had directed to report to Major-General Mower at Memphis, was here returned to the command. On the 18th instant [ultimo], under orders from Major General Mower, commanding expedition, I moved from Brownsville and arrived at Cape Girardeau, Mo., on the 5th of October at noon. Distance 316 miles direct march.

October 7, the command embarked on steamers for Saint Louis, arriving on the 8th, 9th, and 10th, and going at once to Benton Barracks. Here I caused to be turned in all unserviceable animals,

and the command was supplied with 500 fresh horses, five ambulances, and five six-mule teams and wagons. (Our transportation to this time had included no wagons.) The men were also supplied with clothing, which was much needed. At 5 p. m. 10th instant the First Brigade moved toward the Missouri River, arriving at noon next day, thirty-five miles, and embarked on steamers for Jefferson City, while I marched with the Second Brigade at 6 a. m. on the 11th instant, reaching Independence, via Washington, Russellville, California, Tipton, Sedalia, and Lexington, on the evening of the 22d instant, distance about 305 miles direct. A portion only of the First Brigade joined me on the march, the Second New Jersey and Nineteenth Pennsylvania Regiments having fallen to the rear by orders from Major-General Pleasonton. At Independence we first came up with an enemy, and my command was directed to support that of Brigadier-General Brown (Missouri State Militia) in pushing the enemy over Big Blue River. General Brown, saying his men were out of ammunition, directed me to take the advance at dark, which I did, and with the Third Iowa (dismounted) pushed the enemy from Independence to within two miles of the river, where I was ordered to halt, at 10.30 p. m. On the morning of the 23d, General Brown's brigade being ordered to the front and himself to the rear, I was requested by the major-general commanding to take charge of the front and conduct the fighting. Immediately assuming direction, I formed on the edge of the stream one regiment of Missouri State Militia, together with the Fourth Missouri, Captain Knispel, and one battalion of the Fourth Iowa, Captain Dee, which I had previously placed there, and ordered a charge upon the enemy on the other bank. The enemy were at once driven back upon his main line, half a mile farther back. Almost three companies, being partially surrounded, would have been captured from the enemy but for awkwardness or negligence on the part of some militia officers. Dismounting two other regiments of Missouri State Militia, and directing Captains Knispel and Dee to hold their commands in reserve, and at the same time ordering forward my whole command, I advanced upon the main position of the enemy. Their line was formed in the edge of a long piece of timber, just on the brow of the rising ground, while in front was a fine open stretch of clearing descending gradually to the river. When within 400 yards of the enemy I directed the line to advance rapidly and drive them from the timber. This was well commenced only, when the whole line gave way under the fire of the enemy and retreated in disorder to the reserve, where I succeeded in reforming the broken detachment. I again ordered an advance with the Third and Fourth Iowa Regiments closely supporting. This time we reached the woods, and after a short, spirited resistance from the enemy drove them out of position with some loss. The retiring foe was followed by our troops through the skirt of timber about two miles, when, having been struck, just as we gained the edge of the timber, in the leg with a rifle-ball, and disabled thereby, I turned over the command to Lieut. Col. F. W. Benteen, Tenth Missouri Cavalry, who had commanded the Second Brigade since leaving Washington, Mo.

Having been left on the field I could not learn our loss or that of the enemy. I know of Captain Brown and Lieutenant Watts, Third Iowa, and Lieutenant Bowman, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, being wounded while gallantly leading their men. I presume our loss to this time did not exceed in my division 25 all told. The command is still pursuing the retreating enemy. During the march to Clarendon and until leav-

ing Brownsville, Ark., the command was but partially supplied with grain, and had very little hay. From Brownsville, Ark., to Cape Girardeau, Mo., grain was readily found and some hay was obtained. From Saint Louis to time of arrival at Independence a sufficient amount of grain and considerable hay was secured. That the march was severe in many respects is evident, and yet at the time of the fight, 23d of October, there were no dismounted men. Of course during the march from Saint Louis no horses were taken from citizens. Previous to the arrival of the command at Cape Girardeau about 250 animals were taken and captured, all of which were branded, and most of them turned into the quartermaster's department at Benton Barracks. The men were dismounted and led their animals from one-eighth to one-fourth of each day's march, and every effort was made by steady moving, frequent rests, and regular and abundant feeding, when practicable, to keep the command in an effective condition. The officers generally did all they could to second my endeavors, although, as is the case in all our movements, many company commanders neglected to enforce obedience to orders received from higher authority. I am especially indebted to the several brigade commanders, and to Lieut. A. Hodge, acting assistant adjutant-general; Captain Fitch, aide-de-camp; Lieutenant Madigan, acting commissary of subsistence; Capt. J. F. Young, Tenth Missouri Cavalry, acting assistant quartermaster, and Lieutenant Thiel, aide-de-camp, for much valuable aid.

Immediately after the return from the pursuit of Price the command should be reunited, and I respectfully represent the necessity of this being done. The detachment in Missouri is composed of details from about every company in eight regiments, the company and regimental records being yet at Memphis with the portion there encamped.

I submit herewith a statement of the daily marches with remarks. Only the direct marches are shown, to which aggregate should be added 25 per cent. for scouting, flanking, and foraging. Miles marched, 772; traveled by boats, 150; total distance, 922 miles.

Respectfully submitted.

Your obedient servant,

E. F. WINSLOW,
Colonel, Commanding Division.

Capt. S. L. WOODWARD,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cavalry Corps, Dist. of West Tennessee.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Kansas City, October 23, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to submit the following brief report of operations of my command from the 16th instant to date:

By direction of the major-general commanding the department, I reported to the major-general commanding division from Prince's Ford on Osage River, where my command was then in bivouac. From this point the command moved thirty miles per diem, to Wellington, camping at dark on the 21st instant; moved at 12 o'clock same night in rear of Sanborn's brigade to Independence, when I was directed to support Brigadier-General Brown and aid in driving the enemy to Weston. Moved at 5 p. m., and by direction of General Brown my brigade took the advance, pushing the enemy (Clark's rebel brigade in the rear) to within three miles of Big Blue, when, at 10.30 p. m., I received orders to wait for the moon to rise. Moved about 4 a. m. 23d, driving the

enemy over Big Blue, at which stream General Brown's brigade was ordered to take the advance and General B. ordered to the rear. At the request of the major-general commanding division I assumed direction of the fighting in front, the enemy being posted on the opposite bank of the river with their main line formed about half a mile from the stream. With one battalion Fourth Iowa Cavalry, 100 Fourth Missouri Cavalry, and one regiment of Brown's brigade, Missouri State Militia, formed on the bank of the stream, the enemy were at once driven to their main line by a vigorous charge. Dismounting two other regiments of Missouri State Militia and forming line about 400 yards from that of the enemy, under the cover of the crest of a small hill, I directed a charge on the enemy, having previously placed a regiment in reserve. When within about 100 yards of the enemy the entire line broke and ran to the rear. Succeeded in rallying upon the reserve most of the broken troops, and bringing forward my brigade in support I again ordered a charge on the enemy's line. This movement was perfectly successful, though the enemy held their position, a good one, until our men engaged them hand-to-hand. Just as the enemy turned to run I was struck in the left leg with a rifle-ball, and, though able to keep the saddle until the enemy had been driven a mile, was obliged then to turn over my command to Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen, Tenth Missouri Cavalry.

I cannot give a list of casualties, not having received any reports, but think the losses in my own command will not exceed 25 killed and wounded, principally in the Third Iowa Cavalry, which did the work on the night of the 22d.

I respectfully call the attention of the major-general to the condition of my command, which, though having marched over 800 miles direct line, had then no dismounted men.

Very truly, yours,

E. F. WINSLOW,
Colonel Fourth Iowa Cavalry, Commanding.

Lieut. CLIFFORD THOMSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 10.

Report of Lieut. Col. Frederick W. Benteen, Tenth Missouri Cavalry, commanding Fourth Brigade, Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
Cross Timbers, Mo., November 3, 1864.

GENERAL: I beg respectfully to submit the following report of the operations of this brigade since I have had the honor of commanding it:

On the morning of the 23d of October, Colonel Winslow commanding, was unfortunately wounded in the leg and had to retire from the field, and the command devolved upon me as the next ranking officer. At that time I found the enemy well posted on the opposite side of the Big Blue with a very strong position and in considerable numbers. Captain Dee, of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, had succeeded, with a detachment of that regiment, in gaining a position on the same side with the rebels and the brigade of General Brown had been ordered to the front. As soon as the command devolved upon me I dismounted the Third

Iowa Cavalry, Maj. B. S. Jones commanding, and advanced them as skirmishers toward the enemy, through the woods that lined the immediate banks of the creek, until I arrived at an open space, some 200 yards in width, on the near side of which I found 200 or 300 men of the Missouri State Militia posted behind some houses at which the enemy was pouring a very hot fire. By dint of great urging and exertion of authority, I succeeded in getting them from behind their places of shelter, and then, with them and my dismounted men, advanced across the field at a double-quick to the woods beyond; the enemy at the same time resisting us stoutly. The woods attained, we pushed the enemy through them rapidly to the prairie beyond, where he had stationed a battery, from which he played among us shell after shell. My command, nevertheless, moved on and with such rapidity that the rebel commander, fearing, I suppose, for the safety of his cannon, withdrew them with his command rapidly and fell back quite a distance across the prairie beyond even the range of artillery. In the meantime I had sent for the Fourth Iowa Cavalry and dismounted them and advanced them in line of skirmishers as a support to my advanced line. The enemy thus for the moment having been pushed beyond our reach, my whole command was brought forward on the prairie, and after a few minutes being allowed for rest the whole was mounted, and, at your direction, I moved out on what was called the Ridge road toward the position the enemy had taken. It had now got to be past noon, and after some distance had been gained, I sent Captain Young to find you and obtain permission to feed our hungry animals. The captain shortly after reporting that he could not ascertain your whereabouts, I took the responsibility upon myself to halt my command in a large corn-field and take a few minutes to feed. I had not taken much time when I perceived there was work to be done, as I could plainly see a battle raging in our front, and immediately ordered my men into the saddle and moved out on a trot toward the State line. A few minutes sufficed to bring us to the scene of the conflict. Here I found the enemy making a charge and some of our troops ingloriously falling back. I tried, with the assistance of Captain Young, to rally them, but without avail. I then ordered my leading regiment, the Tenth Missouri Cavalry, to form a line to the left and ordered them to make a counter-charge, which they did in gallant style, turning the rebels and driving them. I then formed the rest of my brigade and ordered a charge, in which the whole command participated, driving the enemy far beyond the battle-ground, beyond Missouri into Kansas and beyond the town of Santa Fé. In this charge Second Lieut. M. C. Auld, Company I, Tenth Missouri Cavalry, was severely wounded. Our horses having become jaded and worn down, I formed my column and proceeded to a point just beyond the Kansas line and about two miles and a half from Santa Fé, and halted to rest both animals and men. Here I received orders from you to go into camp for the night and in the morning move out and meet you at or near the last-named town.

On the morning of the 24th, just after daylight, we moved out to Santa Fé, and taking our position just in the rear of General Sanborn's command marched until late that night, reaching the Osage River, where, on the order of General Sanborn, we bivouacked around the house of Elder Williams, that officer deeming it too dark and the enemy too well posted for an attack that night. That day we marched over a desolated country, where even water was scarce, at a speed that necessarily kept the rear at a trot, and bivouacked, without forage for our jaded horses, a distance of at least forty-two miles. The morning of the 25th

broke and gave promise of a dull and dreary day, when I was ordered with my brigade to march to the river and cross, receiving from you the order to charge the enemy whenever the opportunity offered. I crossed, and reaching the prairie formed my column in the following order: First, the Tenth Missouri Cavalry, Maj. W. H. Lusk; second, the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, Maj. A. R. Pierce; third, the Third Iowa Cavalry, Maj. B. S. Jones, and fourth, the Seventh Indiana Cavalry and Fourth Missouri Cavalry, consolidated, under the command of Maj. S. E. W. Simonson, of the former regiment, and moved as rapidly as possible after the retreating enemy. The skies now cleared, and the sun smiled out upon the scene as if foretelling the glorious day that awaited us. After forming, a few advanced skirmishers were thrown out to prevent a too sudden approach upon the enemy, who might be behind any of the numerous hills of the undulating prairie. Three short miles were scarcely accomplished when one of the advanced skirmishers galloped back and reported that the enemy was only a few hundred yards ahead in line of battle, in large force, and with eight pieces of artillery. About the same time Major Hunt, of General Curtis' staff, came up and told me the enemy's exact position, stating that there was a brigade already in position in his front, but too weak to begin the attack. I at once determined to form on the left of this brigade, especially as a few more paces brought us in view of the line of rebels; seeing the position in which he had his artillery, I immediately surmised that the rebel commander had committed a fatal blunder, and resolved to capture it. I sent an officer to the commanding officer of the brigade on my right with the information that I was going to charge, and a request for him to charge with me, for God's sake, and at the same time formed my command in column of regiments in the same manner I had formed them for marching, and immediately sounded the charge. The line of the brigade on my right was soon passed, but it did not charge with us; this brigade I have since learned was the one commanded by Col. J. F. Philips, of the Missouri State Militia. The fire of the enemy was now so hot that for a moment it staggered even my own gallant regiment, but it soon recovered and went on with an exulting yell. At the time the charge was sounded, I gave the orders for the different regiments to execute a right half-wheel, and dispatched my staff to see it executed, then to completely cut off the enemy's chance to escape with his artillery. This maneuver was successfully executed, and we captured the guns in a shorter space of time than is necessary to record it. Then began a fierce hand-to-hand fight, one that surpassed anything for the time it lasted I have ever witnessed.

My loss in this part of the day's transaction was large, but in comparison with the gains it was small. Lieutenant Curtiss, of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, was instantly killed while gallantly encouraging on his men, and Lieut. B. Armbrust, Company A, Fourth Cavalry Missouri Volunteers, was wounded in the bridle-arm while bravely charging at the head of his company. The enemy was completely routed and driven in the wildest confusion from the field; several of his wagons were abandoned in the narrow road that crosses the creek just in the rear of his position. Many of his force were left dead and wounded upon the field and in our hands. It is a matter of impossibility for me to state the number, as I had no opportunity of passing over the scene of the conflict afterward. After the action of the morning my brigade took no part in any fighting, until the final one of the day, when the enemy drew up his whole force in the afternoon upon what I am informed is called the Little Marmiton Creek. In this action I formed my command as you ordered for a charge as follows: The Tenth Missouri in

line of battle, the Third and Fourth Iowa and Major Simonson's command in column of squadrons in their rear, with the intention to charge as soon as a striking distance could be reached. I ordered the charge at one time, but the enemy fell back too rapidly upon his strong lines and I felt that it would be more than useless to continue, so I halted and formed a line of battle, my ammunition by this time being reduced to a very few rounds per man and my horses completely tired out. Major Simonson's command was not included in the line of battle, as you had stationed him to support the section of artillery you had stationed to the left and rear of the command.

In this last action we lost several men wounded, and amongst them Maj. A. R. Pierce, of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, who was severely wounded in the foot while leading his men toward the rebels. He did not leave the field until the night had set in and the command bivouacked on the field, the enemy in the meantime having retired. This ended the fighting up to the present time in which we have had any participation. The next morning I moved my command to Fort Scott, halting to feed on the road. The next day I received orders from you to report to Major-General Curtis, and am at present still under his orders.

This report does not pretend to give any history of our operations previous to my assumption of command. I suppose Colonel Winslow, my predecessor, will make his report as soon as possible of the movements up to the time of his departure.

You will find annexed Exhibit A,* which gives a list of the casualties of the command for the whole period of time the command has been in pursuit of Price. Hundreds of prisoners have fallen into our hands, but owing to the nature of our movements, I have not been able to keep a record of them.

My thanks are due to the officers and men for their gallant and cheerful performance of duty at all times. Maj. W. H. Lusk, of the Tenth Missouri; Maj. A. R. Pierce, of the Fourth Iowa; Maj. B. S. Jones, of the Third Iowa; Maj. S. E. W. Simonson, of the Seventh Indiana, and Captain Knispel, of the Fourth Missouri, are entitled to especial mention for the brave examples they set their men and the gallant style in which they led them into danger. To Private James Dunlavy,† Company D, Third Iowa Cavalry, belongs the honor of capturing Major-General Marmaduke, and to Sergt. Calvary M. Young,† of the same company [Company L,] and regiment, that of taking General Cabell. We also captured besides the guns and prisoners two stand of colors. Of my staff, I beg particularly to mention Capt. J. F. Young, Tenth Missouri Cavalry, acting assistant adjutant-general, and Lieut. August Thiel, of the Fourth Missouri Cavalry, acting aide-de-camp, for their gallantry in the field and their unceasing attention to duty at all times. I do not desire to make any invidious distinctions, however, for all did well and nobly and deserve the thanks of their country.

In conclusion, allow me, general, to return you my sincere thanks for the uniform kindness you have displayed toward me during our official connection, and I shall always cherish it with the kindest of feelings and regard.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. W. BENTEEN,

Lieut. Col. Tenth Cavalry Missouri Vols., Comdg. Fourth Brig.

Maj. Gen. A. PLEASONTON.

*Not found. †Awarded a Medal of Honor.

No. 11.

Report of Maj. Benjamin S. Jones, Third Iowa Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD IOWA CAVALRY,
Benton Barracks, Mo., November 28, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the actions of the Third Iowa Cavalry in the recent campaign in Missouri against the rebel forces commanded by General Price:

In pursuance of orders I assumed command of 483 men with 15 line officers, all the available mounted forces of the regiment, and marched from camp near Memphis, Tenn., at 2 o'clock on the morning of the 2d day of September, 1864, and formed a part of Winslow's brigade, with which I crossed the Mississippi, and marched to Brownsville, Ark., where I arrived on the 9th day of September, and remained with the brigade almost without forage for my horses, awaiting the arrival and fitting up of an infantry force, commanded by Major-General Mower, until the morning of the 18th of September, during which time I left sick in hospital fifty men and one officer, when we marched with said force via Austin and Searcy, and crossed White River fifteen miles below Batesville, and Black River at Elgin, ten miles above its junction with White River. Bridged and crossed the latter stream, marched up its left bank, crossing into the State of Missouri, at or near Poplar Bluff, turning to the east, and marching to Cape Girardeau, Mo., where we arrived on the 5th day of October, 1864. Embarked on transports and moved to Saint Louis, Mo., where I arrived and refitted my command on the 10th and marched out on the 11th up the valley of the Missouri River on the direct road to Independence, marching rapidly and constantly until the 22d day of October, when we joined the forces of the Department of the Missouri, commanded by Major-General Pleasonton, and which were fighting the enemy near Independence, Mo. Winslow's brigade being ordered to the front that evening, my regiment not having the advance was, however, dismounted, sent to the front, and immediately engaged the enemy on the Kansas City road, fighting and driving Clark's (rebel) brigade, from 5 o'clock until 9.30 p. m., a distance of five miles, when my command was relieved. The command rested on the field for the night in the face of the enemy, having marched from 12 o'clock on the night of the 21st, and without forage or water for our animals. Our brigade was in motion again at 4 a. m. of the 23d, the Fourth Iowa Cavalry and Tenth Missouri in the advance, and drove the enemy after light skirmishing to and across the Big Blue (a distance of two miles) to a strong position. A brigade of Missouri State Militia was thrown in to dislodge them, but failed to accomplish it. My command was dismounted and formed line on the right and in front of the enemy, who were posted across an open field behind piles of rails in the woods. We charged them, killing and wounding many of their men (Company A captured one stand of their colors) and completely routed them from their strong position, but suffered a considerable loss in wounded. Soon after I mounted my command and proceeded with my brigade to the front on the open prairie, and joined in a gallant mounted charge against the enemy in column of regiments, following the Tenth Missouri and Fourth Iowa Cavalry, which was continued through farms and over the prairie for five or six miles, breaking his lines, and completely scattering his men in every direction, and inflict-

ing a severe loss upon him in killed, wounded, and prisoners. Here again I lost in both killed and wounded, and our brigade camped for the night on the State line between Missouri and Kansas, fed our hungry and jaded animals on corn and fodder from a fine field on the rich and free soil of Kansas, and rested fearless of an enemy. We marched early, constantly, and rapidly on the 24th, in a southerly direction, after a retreating enemy, down the line dividing Missouri and Kansas, over extensive prairies dotted with devasted farms and lonely chimneys, which mark the ravages of war before the rebellion, and in the days of which it would have been worse than fanaticism to have prophesied that on the 24th day of October, 1864, the governments of Missouri and Kansas would unite as they did on that day and drive out the defenders of African slavery and the destroyers of the Government, as it was our delight to do, uniting with the Army of the Border, commanded by General Curtis, with which we marched without halting until 3 a. m. of 25th, at Trading Post, on the Osage River, where we found the enemy and eagerly waited for daylight.

The enemy having been routed from their position on the river, was followed by Winslow's brigade at a gallop in the order of Tenth Missouri, Fourth Iowa, Third Iowa, Fourth Missouri, and Seventh Indiana Cavalry for several miles, and when he attempted to make a stand, formed in two lines of battle, supported by eight pieces of artillery, my command was formed in line of battle, with the brigade in column of regiments in their order of march, and, constituting the left center of our whole line, charged the enemy, breaking his right and center, killing, wounding, and capturing many of his men. Among the captured was Major-General Marmaduke and Brigadier-General Cabell, the first by Private James Dunlavy, of Company D, and the latter by Sergeant C. M. Young, of Company L, both of the Third Iowa Cavalry. Companies C, D, and E captured three pieces of the enemy's artillery. The whole of my command did nobly on that field, as also on others, and the highest commendations are due to every man and officer. The remainder of this day was one continual charge upon the enemy and his complete rout. We rested on the open prairie over night near Fort Scott, Kans. On the 26th day of October we rested with our brigade at Fort Scott, and early on the 27th again joined in the pursuit of the enemy and continued through Arkansas and Indian Territory to a point on Arkansas River forty miles above Fort Scott, without again seeing the enemy, and from which we returned to this place, having marched since September 2, 1,650 miles, and participated in three general engagements, and marched through a country destitute of forage, or having been devastated by the enemy, and many times without having food for my men, having had only three-fifths rations from the 28th ultimo to 7th instant and not any bread from the 7th to 12th instant in consequence of the destitution of the country (Indian Territory) through which we marched, and great distance from the base of supplies.*

Hoping you will make proper allowances for the length of this report,

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. S. JONES,

Major, Commanding Third Iowa Cavalry Veteran Volunteers.

N. B. BAKER,

Adjutant-General of Iowa.

*Nominal list of casualties (here omitted) shows 2 commissioned officers wounded and 6 enlisted men killed and 39 wounded.

No. 12.

Report of Major Abial R. Pierce, Fourth Iowa Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH IOWA CAVALRY,
Diamond Grove Prairie, October 27, 1864—7.30 p. m.

GENERAL: Fearing that justice will not be done my regiment in the reports made of the battle of Osage, I take the liberty to call your attention to the charge made by them on the enemy's right, at a time when our line on the right had halted and were receiving a destructive fire from the enemy. At that time a perfect rout of our line appeared to be almost certain. My regiment had just formed on the extreme left of our line when I commenced the charge. The three companies on the right of my regiment charged through the line of the Tenth Missouri Volunteer Cavalry Regiment, which was formed in their front. In that charge we crushed the enemy's right completely. We pressed them so close that I cut eight rebels from their horses with my own saber. My regiment captured over 200 prisoners with two stand of colors. We advanced so far into the enemy's ranks that Major-General Pleasonton ordered our own battery to shell us, thinking we were the retreating enemy, and my men were obliged to scatter to avoid being cut to pieces by our own shells. I should have called to see you, general, had not I received a severe wound in my foot, which prevents my riding my horse.

A. R. PIERCE,
Major, Commanding Fourth Iowa Veteran Cavalry.

Major-General CURTIS.

No. 13.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding Provisional Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Warrensburg, November 1, 1864.

COLONEL: I desire to submit a preliminary report of the operations of this division from the time of its first contact with General Price's army, after my assuming command, until its arrival at Fort Scott. As soon as subordinate reports are received, I will then submit a more detailed statement.

On the 22d of October my advance came up with the enemy's rear guard at the Little Blue. The bridge was destroyed over that stream, but by means of a temporary bridge, hastily constructed, and a ford about half a mile below, the command was soon crossed. McNeil's brigade had the advance, and soon engaged the enemy, followed by Sanborn's brigade, and this force soon pressed them back upon Independence, and beyond that town, where by a vigorous charge of Catherwood's regiment (Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry) two guns were captured from the enemy. The pursuit was continued, and Brown's and Winslow's brigades coming up they were thrown to the front. The enemy seemed to be in haste, so I determined to push them all night, and for this purpose Winslow's brigade was dismounted and thrown forward in a number of successful charges, which resulted in driving the enemy some six

miles to the Big Blue River during the night; and I take this occasion to say that Colonel Winslow not only handled his brigade in splendid style, but his troops showed themselves equal to any service they were called on to perform. This brigade being very much worn down by this night's fighting, Brig. Gen. E. B. Brown was ordered to move his brigade forward and attack the enemy at daylight and keep pushing him vigorously, as he would be well supported. Not finding any attack being made I went to the front. I found Brown's brigade on the road so disordered as to be in no condition for fighting, and General Brown himself had made no preparations to carry out my order. I immediately arrested him, and also Colonel McFerran, of the First Missouri State Militia, whose regiment was straggling all over the country, and he was neglecting to prevent it, and placed Colonel Philips, of the Seventh Missouri State Militia, in command of Brown's brigade. The night previous, at Independence, I had ordered General McNeil to proceed with his brigade from that point to Little Santa Fé, and to reach that latter point by daylight. General McNeil failed to obey this order, but came up to the Big Blue, some five or six miles above the point at which the rest of the division was fighting, about 12 m. on the 23d, and instead of vigorously attacking the enemy's wagon train, which was directly in front of him with but little escort, he contented himself with some skirmishing and cannonading, and the train escaped. The rebel General Marmaduke stated after he was captured that had McNeil attacked at this time they would have lost their whole train. I trust that this conduct on the part of General McNeil will meet the marked disapprobation of the major-general commanding, as it has mine. Finding that General Brown had not attacked the enemy on the morning of the 23d of October at the Big Blue, I immediately ordered Winslow's and Philips' brigades into action, with Sanborn supporting, and after a very obstinate battle the enemy were driven from their position to the prairie on the Harrisonville road beyond the Big Blue. It was then about 1 o'clock in the day, and the enemy, in very heavy force, were fighting the Kansas forces at Westport, under General Curtis. My appearance on the prairie caused them to retreat from before Curtis on the Fort Scott road, and in passing they formed to attack my position. A brigade of their cavalry charged the right of Sanborn's brigade and shook it considerably, but I ordered up six pieces of artillery, and by means of double-shotted canister soon caused them to halt and finally beat a hasty retreat. Soon after this Generals Blunt and Curtis overtook me in pursuit, and it was agreed that my forces should take the right of the Fort Scott road, while theirs took the left. This was done, and headquarters were made at Little Santa Fé that night. The next morning, by agreement, General Curtis' command took the advance, and mine followed, until we had marched to West Point, where, finding the enemy were at the Trading Post, on the Osage River, General Curtis requested me to move to front with my troops. I did so, and attacked the enemy at daybreak on the morning of the 25th of October, shelling his camp. He left in great haste, dropping trees in the road to bar our progress, and fighting a running contest to the Osage River, where his main force was posted, awaiting us. The rapidity of the march was such that but two brigades, Winslow's (then commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen) and Philips' brigades, with a small part of Sanborn's, had reached the front, but knowing the importance of time to the enemy I did not hesitate to attack at once, and after a brilliant charge by both brigades the enemy was routed. Eight

guns were captured. Major-General Marmaduke and Brigadier-General Cabell surrendered with about 1,000 prisoners, and the enemy began to burn a large number of wagons in his train. The road for the next fifteen miles was strewn with muskets and arms of all kinds. Late in the evening I again came up with the enemy, just opposite Fort Scott, on an extensive prairie, but my horses were too much exhausted to go into action, and I was compelled to go to the fort for forage. That night Generals Curtis and Blunt also passed at Fort Scott, and the next morning, the 26th of October, I received a communication from General Curtis, of which the inclosed is a copy. My command was too much exhausted to move immediately after the enemy, but I ordered it forward, and only countermanded their instructions after receiving the major-general's dispatch from Warrensburg, directing the different brigades to return to their respective districts. I also inclose a dispatch from General Curtis showing he had given directions for the prisoners taken by my command at the Osage to proceed to Fort Leavenworth. This, also, I did not regard after receiving the general's instructions. I left Fort Scott with the prisoners, captured artillery, and several hundred head of captured stock, sheep, and cattle, on the 28th of October, and arrived at Warrensburg on the 31st.

The losses of the command in killed and wounded will not exceed 450, while that of the enemy was much greater. All their dead and wounded fell into our hands.

I desire to commend to the favorable consideration of the major-general commanding the following brigade commanders: Brigadier-General Sanborn, Colonel Philips, Seventh Missouri State Militia; Colonel Winslow, and Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen. Colonel Cole, chief of artillery of the Department of the Missouri, and my chief of staff, rendered most important and efficient service, which is also submitted to favorable notice. The following-named officers serving on my staff were conspicuous for gallantry and fidelity throughout the campaign: Col. N. Cole, Second Missouri Artillery, chief of staff; Lieut. Col. S. H. Melcher, Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, acting aide-de-camp; Maj. Henry Suess, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, acting aide-de-camp; Capt. R. L. Ferguson, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, provost-marshal; Capt. Alfred Walters, Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, acting aide-de camp; Capt. George W. Yates, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry, aide-de-camp; Lieut. George H. Thompson, First New Hampshire Cavalry, aide-de-camp; Lieut. R. G. Leaming, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, acting aide-de-camp; Lieut. Clifford Thomson, First New York Cavalry, aide-de-camp and acting assistant adjutant-general; Surg. F. V. Dayton, surgeon in chief.

A great many horses were abandoned by the enemy. Some of them were taken by the troops in exchange for their exhausted animals to continue the pursuit, but the greater number were taken by the people of the country and from Kansas. At least 2,000 stand of arms were captured by my command, but before they were secured by me they were taken from the field, many by persons from Kansas who visited the field of battle for plunder.

I would state that from the demoralized state of the enemy as well as the exhausted condition of the horses of my command, I recommended to Major-General Rosecrans the propriety of directing Sanborn's and McNeil's brigades to follow up the enemy beyond the limits of the State of Missouri and then return to their respective districts at Rolla and Springfield, while Philips' and Winslow's brigades could be with-

drawn from the pursuit; and upon the approval of this suggestion it was carried out. I would also further state that all of the conflicts that took place with Price's army were in the limits of the State of Missouri.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Col. J. V. DU BOIS,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Missouri.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

FORT SCOTT, KANS., *October 26, 1864.*

Major-General PLEASONTON:

Although our joint commands are much broken and weary, after a few hours' sleep and a careful reflection I feel still more the duty and obligation I expressed to you last night of continuing the pursuit and assaults upon Price and his forces until we destroy him or get him beyond the Arkansas River and our commands stationed at Fort Gibson and Fort Smith, which are liable to be overwhelmed by his numbers, are relieved and secure from his forces. I therefore desire that you will furnish the ordnance officer a memorandum or requisition for ammunition and resume your position in pursuit of the enemy. I will procure provisions and transportation and have the ammunition and supplies overtake you. This I am confident can be done by half loading teams and requiring them to travel night and day. While I regret your flank movement last night, I must thank you for the energy and gallantry you displayed in the several conflicts we had yesterday with the enemy, and I hope you will add luster by your further efforts and receive the grateful acknowledgments of your country.

Until the arrival of General Rosecrans I feel the responsibility and must assert the duties of the chief command of all troops in this vicinity.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

IN THE FIELD,
Camp at Shanghai, October 26, 1864—6 p. m.

[Major-General PLEASONTON:]

GENERAL: We are again on the rebel trail, about twenty-four miles from Fort Scott. I must wait for troops and rations to close up, and hope General Rosecrans will arrive to-night. The rebels are considerably ahead, and we must travel a night or two in order to overtake him. I am told fuss and feeling was got up about the charge and escort for prisoners. This is very unreasonable. Captain Hall is a proper man to have charge, and I detailed a regiment of General Sanborn's command for provost duty. It is entirely immaterial to me who escorts the prisoners, unless it is intended to impute to my Kansas troops some special unfitness for that duty. If that were attempted I would have to take some pains to vindicate their honor. None of my troops, either from Kansas or elsewhere, will do any unkindness or cruelty to prisoners. I prefer that some of General Rosecrans' command shall escort the troops and that Captain Hall shall have charge. They must be taken to Leavenworth, where they must remain till I make further

arrangement either for their exchange or transportation to Alton, or elsewhere, as I may be instructed from headquarters. Colonel Ritchie, of my staff, as I am informed, was arrested by yourself or some of your officers. While I directed him to obey the arrest, it is proper for me to express some doubts of the propriety of an official act of this sort toward an officer acting, as he was, under my orders, and I desire that the matter may be reported at your earliest convenience.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

SAINT LOUIS, MO., *November 30, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit a report of the operations of the troops under my command in the late campaign against the rebel army under General Sterling Price; also reports of subordinate commanders and list of casulties.

On the 6th of October I was ordered to proceed to Jefferson City and assume command of all the forces in that vicinity. I arrived at that point on the morning of the 8th, and finding that Price's army was moving west, I immediately ordered all the available cavalry force, with a battery of 3-inch guns, the whole under the command of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, to proceed as a corps of observation after the enemy, to harass and delay him as much as possible until other troops could be brought forward. For the particulars of this service, which was well and ably performed by General Sanborn, I refer you to his report. On the 19th of October I proceeded to Dunksburg and assumed command of the Provisional Cavalry Division which had been formed in orders from department headquarters, consisting of the cavalry of Sanborn, formed into three brigades, under Brigadier-Generals Brown, McNeil, and Sanborn, respectively, and of Colonel Winslow's cavalry brigade, from Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith's command, making a fourth brigade. To each brigade a section of artillery was attached. On the night of the 20th my advance, consisting of McNeil's and Sanborn's brigades, occupied Lexington after some skirmishing with the enemy's rear guard, and the enemy having taken the road to Independence, the command was occupied on the 21st in closing up and approaching the Little Blue. On the 22d of October my advance came up with the enemy's rear guard at the Little Blue. The bridge was destroyed over that stream, but by means of a temporary one hastily constructed and a ford about half a mile below the command was soon crossed. McNeil's brigade had the advance, and soon engaged the enemy, followed by Sanborn's brigade, and this force pressed them back through Independence and beyond that town, where by a vigorous charge of Catherwood's regiment (Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry), two guns and a number of prisoners were captured. Brown and Winslow's brigades then coming up they were thrown to the front, and engaged the enemy. Major-General Curtis, in command of the forces from Kansas, having been compelled to fall back from Lexington to Independence, and from thence to retreat to the Big Blue, and afterward to Westport, I determined to push the enemy as far as possible during the night, to relieve Curtis. For this purpose Winslow's brigade was dismounted and thrown forward in a number of successful charges, which resulted in driving the enemy several miles to the Big Blue River, during the night.

I take this occasion to say that Colonel Winslow not only handled his brigade in splendid style, but his troops showed themselves equal to any service they were called upon to perform. To relieve this brigade after

their night fighting, Brig. Gen. E. B. Brown was ordered to move his brigade forward and attack the enemy at daybreak and keep pressing him vigorously, as he would be supported. Not finding any attack being made I went to the front and found Brown's brigade on the road in no proper condition for attacking, nor were any preparations being made to do so, as far as I could perceive. Colonel Philips, of the Seventh Missouri State Militia, was therefore placed in command of the brigade, and this brigade, with Winslow's, were ordered immediately into action, with Sanborn's brigade supporting. I had ordered McNeil's brigade to proceed from Independence to Little Santa Fé the night before, and reach the latter point by daylight. General McNeil failed to obey this order, but came up to the Big Blue, some five or six miles above the point at which the rest of the division were fighting, about 12 m. on the 23d, and instead of vigorously attacking the enemy's wagon train, which was directly in front of him with a small escort, he contented himself with some skirmishing and cannonading, and the train escaped. The battle of the Big Blue, at Byram's Ford, was very obstinately contested by the enemy for several hours, but they were finally driven from their position to the prairie on the Harrisonville road beyond the Big Blue. It was then about 1 o'clock in the day, and the enemy were contending with the Kansas forces near Westport. My appearance on the prairie caused them to retreat on the Fort Scott road, and in passing they formed to attack my position. A body of their cavalry charged the right of Sanborn's brigade, and shook it considerably, but a few discharges from a battery, double-shotted with canister, soon caused them to halt, and finally beat a hasty retreat. Shortly after this Generals Curtis and Blunt overtook me in the pursuit and headquarters were made at Little Santa Fé that night. The next morning General Curtis' command started in advance and marched to West Point, where, finding that the enemy had halted at the Trading Post, on the Osage River, some twelve miles in advance, I was requested by General Curtis to move to the front with my troops. I did so, and attacked the enemy at daylight on the morning of the 25th of October, shelling his camp. He left in great haste, dropping trees in the road to bar my progress, and fighting a running contest to the Osage River, where his main force was posted awaiting us. The rapidity of the march was such that but two brigades, Winslow's (then commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen) and Philips' brigades, had reached the front; but knowing the importance of time to the enemy I did not hesitate to attack at once, and after a brilliant charge the enemy was routed by these troops, and eight guns were captured. Major-General Marmaduke and Brigadier-General Cabell surrendered, and near 1,000 men were taken prisoners, and the enemy began to burn a large number of wagons in his train. The road for the next fifteen miles was strewn with muskets and arms of all kinds, which were secured by General Curtis' command in the rear; also numerous wagons still burning were passed. Late in the evening I again came up with the enemy and attacked him with artillery and cavalry, and that night he blew up his ammunition train. The exhausted condition of my men and horses, having marched near 100 miles in two days and a night, and fighting the last thirty miles, required that I should proceed to the vicinity of Fort Scott for forage and subsistence. All the conflicts and battles that took place between Price's army and my command were in the limits of the State of Missouri, and they were so demoralizing to that army as to render its disorganization complete by the time it crossed the Arkansas River; and had it been possible for General Curtis' command to have co-operated with mine, after crossing

the Marais des Cygnes, the destruction of Price's army at that time would have been inevitable. On the 26th of October, while at Fort Scott, Major-General Curtis sent me a communication, assuming command of my division; he also directed that the prisoners which were captured by my command on the preceding day should be marched through Kansas to Fort Leavenworth. Copies of these communications were forwarded to your office with my preliminary report.* On the 27th of October telegraphic communication was opened with Major-General Rosecrans at Warrensburg, and at my suggestion, to meet the best interests of the service, instructions were given for McNeil's and Sanborn's brigades to follow up and drive the enemy out of the department, and then return to their respective stations at Rolla and Springfield, Benteen's and Philips' brigades to return to their commands; and on the 28th of October the prisoners, captured artillery, and several hundred head of captured stock, left Fort Scott under a proper guard and arrived at Warrensburg on the 31st.

I desire to commend to favorable consideration the following brigade commanders, viz: Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, Colonel Philips, Seventh Missouri State Militia; Colonel Winslow and Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen. I would also mention as regimental commanders whose gallantry and efficiency came under my especial notice, Colonel Beveridge, of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, and Colonel Catherwood, of the Thirteenth Missouri Veteran Volunteers.

The following-named officers serving on my staff were conspicuous for gallantry and fidelity throughout the campaign: Col. N. Cole, Second Missouri Artillery, chief of staff; Lieut. Col. S. H. Melcher, Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, acting aide-de-camp; Maj. Henry Suess, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, acting aide-de-camp; Capt. R. L. Ferguson, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, provost-marshal; Capt. Alfred Walters, Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, acting aide-de-camp; Capt. George W. Yates, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry, aide-de-camp; Lieut. George H. Thompson, First New Hampshire Cavalry, aide-de-camp; Lieut. R. G. Leaming, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, acting aide-de-camp; Lieut. Clifford Thomson, First New York Cavalry, aide-de-camp and acting assistant adjutant-general; Surg. F. V. Dayton, surgeon in chief.

In justice to the troops from Missouri and those of Winslow's brigade I desire to make the most honorable mention of their gallantry, devotion, and self-sacrifice throughout the campaign; attacking and driving on every occasion at least four times their numbers from selected positions, and under disadvantages more than common, they have won for themselves the proud title of being able to fight side by side with the best soldiers of the Republic.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General.

Colonel DU BOIS,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Missouri.

ADDENDA.

SAINT LOUIS, MO., *December 10, 1864.*

Capt. FRANK ENO,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of the Missouri:

CAPTAIN: Your communication of the 8th instant, asking what became of the tenth gun captured by my command in the late campaign

* See p. 339.

against General Price, has been received. I have the honor to state that ten guns were captured by me and taken to Fort Scott, Kans., on the night of the 25th of October, and that one of the guns was stolen during the night by some of the troops of General Curtis' command, serving in Kansas. I sent to recover it, but did not succeed in doing so.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General.

No. 14.

Report of Surg. Ferdinand V. Dayton, Second New Jersey Cavalry, Surgeon in Chief.

HDQRS. MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, CAVALRY DIVISION,
Saint Louis, Mo., November —, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to submit the following report of medical department, together with a list of killed and wounded, Cavalry Division, Major-General Pleasonton's command, during the late campaign through Missouri:

On account of the length and rapidity of the march and the extent of country that the engagements extended over it was with great difficulty that the wounded could be collected or the dead buried; in fact, at no time, to my knowledge, was a proper burying party detailed, so that I was obliged to use hospital attendants and stragglers for that purpose, and with the aid of citizens I hope that most, if not all, of our killed were interred. Six field hospitals were formed at houses as near as possible to the fields of action, and surgeons left in charge, with proper attendants and ambulances to collect all not attended to immediately after each engagement. From the field hospitals the wounded, with attendants, were sent to the general hospitals at Independence, Kansas City, Mound City, and Fort Scott, the medical director of General Curtis' command taking charge of them. From Little Santa Fé I sent back from the supply train three days' provisions to the hospitals between that place and the Big Blue, and Surgeon Van Duyn, U. S. Volunteers, in charge of hospitals at Fort Scott, with the ambulances of his command and provisions that he could transport, started back the morning after we arrived at place over the line of our march to aid in attending the wounded, also collect those that we may not have been able to find.

In closing my report I wish to extend my thanks to the surgeons of the command for the prompt and zealous manner in which they performed all the duties of their position in the most disadvantageous and trying situations a surgeon could be placed in. Surgeon Trader, First Cavalry Missouri State Militia; Surg. J. Chitwood, Seventh Indiana Cavalry; Surgeon Maynard, Second Arkansas Cavalry, and Surgeon Cundiff, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry, brigade surgeons, merit special commendation for the manner in which they controlled their separate departments. I herewith inclose consolidated list of killed and wounded.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. V. DAYTON,
Surgeon in Chief.

[Lieut. CLIFFORD THOMSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.]

Casualties in the Cavalry Corps, Department of the Missouri.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	
First Brigade:										
1st Cavalry Missouri State Militia.	.....	3	3	2	35	37	.....	.....	.....	40
4th Cavalry Missouri State Militia.	1	1	2	5	43	48	.....	.....	.....	50
7th Cavalry Missouri State Militia.	.....	3	3	4	17	21	.....	.....	.....	24
Total	1	7	8	11	95	106	.....	.....	.....	114
Second Brigade:										
Merrill's Horse	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	5	.....	19	19	24
5th Cavalry Missouri State Militia.	.....	5	5	.....	6	6	.....	4	4	15
13th Missouri Cavalry	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	4
7th Kansas Cavalry	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1
17th Illinois Cavalry	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	2
Total	.....	5	5	4	14	18	.....	23	23	46
Third Brigade:										
6th Cavalry Missouri State Militia.	1	1	2	1	19	20	.....	.....	.....	22
8th Cavalry Missouri State Militia.	.....	2	2	2	22	24	.....	.....	.....	26
6th Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia.	.....	5	5	2	26	28	.....	.....	.....	33
2d Arkansas Cavalry	.....	1	1	.....	11	11	.....	.....	.....	12
Total	1	9	10	5	78	83	.....	.....	.....	93
Fourth Brigade:										
4th Missouri Cavalry	.....	4	4	1	11	12	.....	.....	.....	16
10th Missouri Cavalry	.....	.....	.....	1	18	19	.....	1	1	20
3d Iowa Cavalry	.....	3	3	.....	42	42	.....	.....	.....	45
4th Iowa Cavalry	1	1	2	.....	18	18	.....	2	2	22
7th Indiana Cavalry	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	6	.....	.....	.....	6
Total	1	8	9	2	95	97	.....	3	3	109
Grand total	3	29	32	22	282	304	.....	26	26	362

No. 15.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri and First Brigade, Cavalry Division.

OCTOBER 11, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that in obedience to a telegraphic order received by me at Warrensburg on the 23d ultimo from the major-general commanding, to concentrate my command from the west, I broke up the depots of stores at that point and moved them by railroad and wagons to Sedalia, followed by the troops in Johnson, Henry, La Fayette and Saline Counties, who on arriving went into camp at that place. The wagon trains moved toward Jefferson City on the 28th, and the day following the troops took up the line of march for the same place, arriving there with all the stores and transportation on the 1st instant. On the 28th I had ordered Col. Frank Hickox to call into use all the means in his power to fortify the capital, and as my forces when concentrated would be less than 2,500 fighting men he was ordered to occupy a line inside of the works begun under the direction of Major-General Fremont in 1861, I then intending

to destroy that portion of the town within the valley between High Street and the hills beyond it, it being a cover for the enemy to approach our lines of defense. As fast as intrenching tools and labor could be obtained they were put upon the works. There was some necessary destruction of property, but it consisted almost entirely of fences and a few old out-houses of but little value. On the 24th I was authorized by His Excellency the Governor to call into active service as many of the Enrolled Missouri Militia as I deemed necessary, and on the 25th I directed Brig. Gen. R. C. Vaughan to order out all the militia in the Fifth Military District, Colonel Crawford's regiment in Pettis County, and Colonel Hickox's two regiments in the Fourth Military District. By the alacrity with which the citizens obeyed this call I was enabled to add about 1,500 effectives to the force concentrating for the defense of Jefferson City. The fortunate arrival of 1,500 stand of arms, which had been sent to Brigadier-General Douglass, gave the armament necessary and they are now the only infantry troops guarding the city. As soon as the troops arrived a force of 800 men mounted and two pieces of artillery, commanded by Colonel Philips, were moved forward across the Osage, with orders to strike the enemy's advancing column hard, and at the same time all the cavalry in the command was sent to watch the fords by which the enemy could approach this post. On the 4th I sent Captain Steger, with a locomotive, down the railroad to obtain information of the movements of the enemy. On arriving at the Gasconade bridge he learned that there had been cannonading a few miles below at Hermann the evening previous, and that there were movements of the enemy toward that river from the east. After the work of intrenching had been begun it had been pushed forward with all the means in my power. Tools suitable for the work were collected from the stores, railroad company, and surrounding country. Citizens of all classes volunteered or were forced into the trenches. With less than 1,000 men at first and never to exceed 3,000, including citizens, that could be spared from the field to carry on the work, and not tools enough to employ over 800 men could be found, yet in six days they repaired the two partially constructed forts, built three substantial new ones, which, with nearly three miles of intrenchments, palisades, rifle-pits, chevaux-de-frise, put the lines in a condition so strong that the enemy's topographical engineer, after a careful reconnaissance, informed General Price, when he had massed his troops for an assault upon them, that the place was invulnerable against any attack that he could make. On the night of the 4th Brig. Gen. John McNeil arrived at the Osage with the mounted troops and eight pieces of artillery of his and Brigadier-General Sanborn's brigades. The enemy having appeared in force near the mouth of the Osage bridge, the possession of which they had obtained by capturing the guard and block-house at the east end and by the desertion of the guard at the west end, all of which, with the depots and mill, were burned, and reported to have crossed to this side, I moved the command of Colonel Philips down the river, with orders to drive the enemy across the Osage, ordering at the same time Brigadier-General McNeil to hold the upper fords. Both were instructed to contest the crossing of the Osage as long as possible, and if compelled to do so fall back and form on the west and north sides of the Moreau, contesting every inch of the ground fiercely against the advance of the enemy. At this time Brigadier-General Fisk assumed the command of all the forces by right of rank, and I was ordered to the command of the First Brigade and the supervision of the construction of the defenses at this post.

The rapid movements I have briefly enumerated saved every pound of portable stores of the Government, its animals and transportation, leaving this portion of the army in the best possible condition to take part in a vigorous campaign against the army of the enemy. The troops and citizens vied with each other in their efforts to put the city in a state of defense, and all deserve the thanks of the major-general commanding, but the energy displayed by the Forty-ninth Regiment Missouri Volunteers, Col. D. P. Dyer commanding; the Forty-fifth Missouri Volunteers, Col. T. A. Switzler commanding; Colonel Frank Hickox, Forty-third Enrolled Missouri Militia, all the members of my staff, but especially Capt. Edward L. Berthoud, topographical engineer, assisted by Lieut. Thomas H. Macklind, Third Missouri State Militia, who volunteered his services as topographical engineer, I am under great obligations. I desire to express my special thanks to citizen F. H. Nitchey, who volunteered his services as a topographical engineer, and to whom was assigned the duty of superintending the defenses at the east end of the town, for the effective manner that the work was performed. In conclusion, I desire to report that to the energy displayed by the citizens and soldiers, who with a few rude tools in a few days (part of the time in the midst of a heavy storm) so surrounded the capital with a line of impregnable works against the army of the enemy, is the State indebted for its safety and the Government for the protection of its stores, garrison, and munitions of war.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Col. JOHN V. DU BOIS.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
In the Field, October 24, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that on the receipt of his order of the 22d instant to move this brigade to the front, I pushed rapidly forward, passed the commands in my advance through the town of Independence, on the Westport road, and when about a mile out I met the enemy. The First Missouri State Militia was dismounted and moved forward in the center, and orders were sent to the Fourth Missouri State Militia to form on the left, and the Seventh Missouri State Militia on the right, both dismounted. It was soon reported to me that the two latter regiments had not come up. This left the First Missouri State Militia alone to engage the enemy, but the ground was held against a largely superior force for three-quarters of an hour. In the meantime I sent repeated orders to the rear to find the missing regiments, and after nearly an hour's delay they were brought forward, having been stopped in Independence through Colonel Cole, chief of artillery, he having halted the artillery attached to the brigade, and with it, necessarily, the two regiments that were in rear and supporting it. While this part of my command was halted, two companies of the Fourth Missouri State Militia had been detached to remain in Independence on temporary service. I was not informed that these two companies had been detailed or that the two regiments and artillery had been halted at the rear. As soon as they were brought forward, and two mounted squadrons of Colonel Winslow's brigade which had

moved up to support me were sent to the flanks, I pushed forward, attacked the enemy, and drove him back about two miles on the Westport road. After about two hours' fighting the First and Fourth Regiments reported their ammunition expended, and the train having been detained in crossing the Little Blue River Colonel Winslow's (Fourth) brigade relieved me and took the advance. I sent immediately to the rear and ordered the ammunition train up; reformed my command and moved forward, closing up with Colonel Winslow.

In this skirmish with the enemy my loss was Lieutenant Mullins, First Missouri State Militia, mortally wounded, 8 enlisted men severely and a number slightly wounded. The enemy's loss is unknown. Colonel Bennran [?] was killed. Col. Merritt L. Young and Captain Davidson fell into our hands, the former dangerously wounded, and the ambulances of the enemy were busy carrying their disabled men to the rear.

At 1 o'clock in the morning I received a report that the ammunition train which had come up from the Blue had been halted two miles in the rear, near the headquarters of the major-general commanding, and by his orders I sent immediately to urge forward the train, and if held by the general's orders the officer was instructed to see him personally, and explain the necessity for allowing it to move up and supply the troops with ammunition. After daylight the train reached the brigade and the ammunition was distributed as soon as possible. At 5.30 a. m. I had received an order to keep well closed up on Colonel Winslow's brigade and to pass him at daylight, on receipt of which I sent forward to learn if the command was well up, and did so again before daylight, and the report in both cases was that he was in my immediate front. As soon as the ammunition was distributed I moved up to pass him and found about one regiment on the road separated from the advance, which was still moving forward. No preparation had been made by Colonel Winslow for me to pass, nor could he have well done so, as the road led over a broken country, hedged in by dense brush and timber, and he continued to move forward in search of favorable ground, and also, as he said, with the hope of finding forage for his jaded horses. I pushed on, woke his sleeping men, crowded them forward or to one side, and on arriving at the head of the column showed him the order directing me to take the advance, and he moved out in the brush for my command to pass. The advance regiment, Seventh Missouri State Militia, was ordered to dismount to fight. The First Missouri State Militia was ordered to move in to the right and the Fourth Missouri State Militia on the left. The detention of the ammunition train, the moving forward of Colonel Winslow's brigade, with the delay required to close it up and move to one side, while they did not hinder the forward movement of the troops, made the time of relieving Colonel Winslow later in the morning than that designated in the order of the major-general commanding. At the time when the disposition last referred to was being made I was relieved from the command of the brigade.

I hope the commanding general will pardon the length and minuteness of this report, as it is intended that it shall be an explanation of the seeming want of promptness in obeying his orders.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Lieut. Col. C. W. MARSH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division.

WARRENSBURG, *November 3, 1864.*

GENERAL: Permit me unofficially to place in your hands a copy of the report of the movements of the First Brigade from the time the army was engaged at Independence until I was relieved and placed under arrest. The report will be officially forwarded through the proper channels in due time. I have requested of Major-General Pleasonton permission to forward to him as an explanation, but he declined granting it.

In addition to the facts stated in the report, in order to show how the brigade had been depleted, I will say that the efficient field officers of my staff, many of the best company officers, and four companies, had been detailed on detached service; 100 men had been sent to Fulton, Callaway County, and 100, under your order, to Wellington, and the detachments of the Third and Ninth Missouri State Militia, and one battalion of the Seventeenth Illinois (part of Brigadier-General Fisk's command) Volunteer Cavalry, had never joined the brigade, though constituting a part of it under the order brigading the division: that the brigade, having been in Saline County, near Marshall, when the movement was begun, had a longer distance to march than either of the others in the division; that the men had been in the saddle constantly for four days and nights, and at the time I was placed under arrest had been on the road thirty hours without forage or food (except a day's rations of hard bread), and, as shown in my report, part of the time fighting on foot. I desire to state further that in the skirmishing at Independence the evidence of my officers is that it fought harder and more persistently than any other had done up to that time, or subsequently up to the time of the final rout of Price's army, except at the battle of Big Blue. Under the circumstances I cannot believe that General Pleasonton would intentionally do me such great injustice unless he has been incited by false reports. Your uniform kindness and confidence induces me to come plainly to you and place in your hands such a relation of the facts as will show that I have done nothing to forfeit either.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Maj. Gen. W. S. ROSECRANS,
Saint Louis.

WARRENSBURG, *November 3, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I respectfully call the attention of the major-general commanding to the following extract from an order dated October 23, 1864, 4 a. m., and received by me the same day at 5.30 a. m., while on the Independence and Fort Scott road, signed by N. Cole, chief of artillery. After directing the movements of the First Brigade the order continues:

> As your brigade has yet done no fighting, the general expects you to push them (the enemy) vigorously to-day * * * as the other brigades have done so well.

An examination will show the major-general commanding that this statement is not sustained by the facts, and that whoever made it to him was ignorant of the action of the brigade or willfully made a false report. He will also learn that from the time the pursuit of the enemy

began at Jefferson City, on the 7th ultimo, until the division arrived at Fort Scott, no harder fighting was done at any place except at Big Blue; that the brigade had done more fighting, had more casualties (fortunately but few), and killed and wounded more rebels than any other brigade, and as much as the whole division at Independence; that it drove a superior force from three successive strong positions, and were not relieved by Colonel Winslow's (Fourth) brigade until two of the three regiments composing what was left of the brigade were reported entirely out of ammunition (and no possibility of replenishing the cartridge-boxes as the train was detained at the Little Blue) and the enemy in full retreat. The commanding general will pardon me, I hope, if I speak earnestly in defense of the soldiers who have served faithfully under my command for a long time, some of them nearly three years, and for asking that the value of their services at Independence shall receive proper consideration, and that the merit justly belonging to them shall be awarded as a meed due to brave men, who have served their Government faithfully, and that the tongue of slander shall not rob them of the laurels so nobly earned. The commanding general will please understand that I ask for nothing except justice for the soldiers who have served their country so faithfully under me, and whose long-tried courage has added so much to the glory of our arms and to his recent successes.

I am, very truly, your obedient, servant,

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Lieut. CLIFFORD THOMSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Warrensburg, Mo.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, October 23, 1864—4 a. m.

Brig. Gen. E. B. BROWN,
Commanding First Brigade, Cavalry Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you close your command at once on Colonel Winslow, and keep closed up, and at daybreak relieve his brigade and push yours to the front. You will push your command rapidly and give the enemy no chance to halt for rest or forage for men or horses. General McNeil's brigade is expected to strike them at daybreak at Little Santa Fé, and as your command has as yet done no fighting, the general expects you to push them vigorously today. I have ordered four pieces of artillery to the rear of your brigade under Captain Thurber to report to you. General Sanborn will support you with his brigade. The major-general commanding desires me to say he will accept of no excuse for the non-fulfillment of this duty to-day, but hold you responsible, as every other brigade has done so well.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. COLE,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

P. S.—Subsistence train is at Little Blue, and will be up to-day.

N. COLE,
Colonel, &c.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Warrensburg, Mo., November 3, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Brigadier-General Brown. He being in arrest cannot address these headquarters without permission.

By command of Major-General Pleasonton:

C. THOMSON,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

WARRENSBURG, *November 3, 1864.*

Respectfully referred to Col. John V. Du Bois, chief of staff, Department of Missouri.

I suppose I have the right if in arrest to address my commanding or superior officer in writing. I find such right in the military authorities, but my arrest has expired by limitation, no charges having been preferred against me, and having been in arrest since October 23 at 7 a. m.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

No. 16.

Reports of Col. John F. Philips, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry, commanding First Brigade, Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
Warrensburg, Mo., November 7, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that in obedience to General Orders, No. 5, from headquarters Cavalry Division, dated October 23, 1864, I assumed command of the First Brigade on the morning of that day near the Big Blue, Jackson County, Mo. We were then in front of the enemy, who was strongly posted in force on west bank of Big Blue. I was ordered by the major-general commanding to press vigorously forward, take the advance, relieving Colonel Winslow's brigade, then skirmishing with the enemy. The Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Lieut. Col. T. T. Crittenden commanding, was immediately thrown into action, dismounted on the left of the road, while the Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Maj. G. W. Kelly commanding, closely followed by the First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Lieut. Col. B. F. Lazear commanding, were carried rapidly toward the ford with orders to cross and charge the enemy. This order was executed with great difficulty and attended with some delay, in consequence of the egress from the creek having been obstructed by General Blunt's command, by felling heavy timber, forming a kind of abatis. The enemy had so planted a heavy gun as to sweep this ford, and shelled us furiously, killing a number of horses and men in the stream. Nothing daunted the cavalry resolutely forced its way through. Lieutenant-Colonel Crittenden had, in the meantime, effected a crossing, bore to the right, engaging the enemy fiercely. Kelly's cavalry gained the western bank and formed in Crittenden's rear, when the latter swung quickly to the left of the road, pressing hard upon the enemy in his front, Major Kelly making a similar move on the right. The enemy was driven back about 200 yards, where he occupied a range of

hills, extending through an open field on our left and along a craggy bluff, covered with dense woods, on our right. The enemy's position was strengthened by a string of fencing and two or three log houses, behind which he took shelter. The Fourth Cavalry then dismounted and advanced on the right of the Seventh, and I was ordered to charge with the First Cavalry.

The situation of the ground was such as to confine the movements to the cavalry to the road, which rendered the immediate execution of this order, in any other formation than that of column of fours, an impossibility. The effort, in column, was twice made but failed, because the storm of bullets and shell sweeping from that hill down the road insured utter destruction to every horse and its rider that ascended its crest. The dislodgment of the enemy from this formidable position necessitated the hurling against him the entire brigade dismounted, which was at once resolved on and done. Here the fighting was terrific. The enemy soon began to fall back, contesting every inch of ground, across the open field, about 150 yards, to the woods, where their main force was in position. My command, then occupying the position from which the enemy had just been driven, began to advance across this field, where ensued one of the fiercest and most sanguinary conflicts of the engagement. The enemy occupied not only the ground but the very tree tops, their sharpshooters having climbed into these, singling out and shooting our officers and men with fearful success, no less than one field officer and seven line officers falling on this ground. The persistent bravery of officers and men was here most admirable. Notwithstanding the ammunition of my command began to fail the position gained was held and the advance prosecuted. Re-enforcements were sent from Colonel Winslow's brigade, when the charge was pressed with increased vigor. The timber was gained and the enemy driven in confusion, leaving his dead and wounded and a large number of prisoners in our hands, the large number of these showing the stubbornness with which the enemy resisted and the desperation with which our men fought. My ammunition train was ordered up, and as soon as the boxes were replenished I moved rapidly forward.

One mile brought us in view of the enemy formed on the prairie. After some maneuvering we advanced on a line at right angles with the old military road, leading from Westport to Fort Scott. It was discovered that that portion of the enemy's force which had been engaged with General Curtis at Westport, in the forenoon, were falling back, making a connection with the force in our front; Sanborn's brigade coming upon our left a charge was ordered by the major-general commanding, and our entire force was hurled upon the enemy in open prairie, routing and scattering him in indescribable disorder, killing and wounding many and taking many prisoners. The brigade encamped for the night near Little Santa Fé. At daylight on the morning of the 24th we decamped and marched almost incessantly until 3 a. m. on the 25th, when we bivouacked on the open prairie, in a drenching rain, until 5.30 a. m., near Trading Post. Sanborn's and Benteen's brigades were in advance of mine, the former already skirmishing with the enemy, driving him through Trading Post to the Marais des Cygnes, where he resisted stubbornly. At this point I was ordered to take the advance and charge the enemy then formed in open prairie. Passing the two brigades in advance of me I soon came in view of the enemy. Lieutenant-Colonel Lazear, holding the advance of the brigade, was ordered forward with instructions to attack fiercely. The remainder of my command was advanced in squadron columns, supporting Lazear. The enemy

withdrew on our approach. We pursued them at the gallop for three miles, pressing him so closely as to compel him to form. He took position on the open prairie with Mine Creek, a tributary of the Osage, in his immediate rear. Lazear's command was well up and in position. The remainder of the brigade, advancing in parallel columns, was easily and quickly fronted into line. The enemy was formed at 600 yards distance in treble lines and in overwhelming force. My ground was high and commanding. Here the whole rebel army and train were in full view. General Price on his famed white horse was plainly visible directing and urging the rapid flight of his train. The scene was grand; the work before us of fearful import. An aide was sent to inform the major-general commanding that Price's army was in my immediate front and that I confronted him with my little command in line of battle. The enemy's vastly superior numbers enabled him to outflank me, which he evidently intended to do, by his movements. To meet this I was compelled to extend my line to the right by opening files and swinging off one squadron some sixty yards. I had no reserve force; the enemy had eight guns in position, which he now began to use. As yet no artillery had come to my assistance, it having been delayed at the Marais des Cygnes by obstructions placed there by the enemy.

It was manifest that the enemy was preparing to charge by advancing in double column from his right and left center. At this juncture Benteen's brigade came up on my left, and as soon as his advance regiment got into position I began the attack. Everything depended on striking the enemy before his dispositions for a charge were completed. Benteen's brigade came down on the enemy's right handsomely and fiercely. Two pieces of our artillery came up and opened fire. My brigade was precipitated on the enemy's center and left with tremendous energy, when the fighting became general and terrific. The impetuosity of the onset surprised and confounded the enemy. He trembled and wavered and the wild shouts of our soldiers rising above the din of battle told that he gave way. With pistol we dashed into his disorganized ranks and the scene of death was as terrible as the victory was speedy and glorious. Major-General Marmaduke, Brigadier-General Cabell, some colonels, several line officers, four guns, one stand of colors, and a large number of prisoners were captured by this brigade. The ground in our front was strewn with the enemy's dead, dying, and wounded. Every gun the enemy pointed at us fell into our hands. Our advantage was followed up as energetically as possible, making the rout complete. This successful charge produced great consternation and demoralization among the enemy, as evidenced by his rapid flight, the destruction of much of his train, the disgorging and scattering of his ill-gotten plunder. A number of prisoners taken in this fight were dressed in our uniform, and in obedience to existing orders from department headquarters, and the usages of war, they were executed instanter, while those taken in Confederate uniform were recognized and treated as prisoners of war. The number of prisoners exceeded 400. As soon as my brigade could be reorganized I moved forward, forming on the right of Benteen's, and advanced toward the next skirt of timber, where the enemy was reported to have reformed for a renewal of the fight. After a feeble resistance he withdrew. The pursuit was kept up until night. Here we diverged and marched about four miles to Fort Scott and camped for the night. Men and horses were worn out and exhausted; a short respite was a necessity. However, on the morning of the 27th, in obedience to an order of the major-general commanding, I followed on the enemy's trail

in the direction of Lamar, with instructions to report to Major-General Curtis. One regiment, First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, of my brigade, having been detached at Fort Scott to guard prisoners and artillery to Warrensburg, I sent forward couriers, with a dispatch to General Curtis informing him of my approach, and that I would close up as speedily as the jaded condition of my stock would allow.

On the afternoon of the 28th I received an order from Major-General Pleasonton to return by Fort Scott to Warrensburg. Accordingly I countermarched, reaching Warrensburg on the evening of the 2d of November, my command having marched since it entered upon this campaign 1,000 miles.

I submit herewith the report of Brigade Surgeon Trader, showing the list of casualties of the two days' engagements.*

I cannot close this report without expressing my recognition of the very valuable services of my regimental commanders in securing the successes of the brigade. They were brave, prompt, and full of energy and moved their commands with skill, and fought with them at the very front. At the battle of the Big Blue Lieutenant-Colonel Crittenden was struck with a spent ball and temporarily disabled, notwithstanding he cheered and pressed his men forward and held them in line under a galling fire after their ammunition was exhausted. At the battle of the Osage he dashed into the midst of a party of twelve rebels, killed 4 and took the other 8 prisoners. Lieutenant-Colonel Lazear was the directing spirit of his regiment and was ever under heavy fire. His horse was severely wounded under him and himself shot through the boot, but never faltered. Major Kelly's horse was shot under him, and though for a time he almost inhaled lead his lion heart never failed him. Majors Mullins and Neill, of the First, ever fought with distinguished heroism and made for themselves a name not soon to be forgotten. Captain Missemer, of the Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, who commanded his regiment at the battle of the Osage, is commended for his bravery and judgment. Captain Blair, of the Fourth, who fell mortally wounded at the Big Blue, was as noble a soul and as true a soldier as ever lived. Vansickler, Hamilton, Dale, Bryson, Barkley, Christian, Combs, and Mullins sealed with their blood their devotion to our banner and attest the unyielding courage exhibited by my command. I respectfully recommend Sergeant Sapp, Company C, Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Sergeant Truman, Company C, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, for promotion for gallant and meritorious conduct in action. To Capt. J. H. Little, acting assistant adjutant-general, I am under many obligations. He was ever ready, prompt and alive to his duty. To Lieutenants Argo, Doyle, and Bowman, aides-de-camp, I tender my acknowledgments for their courtesy, promptness, and admirable courage. Quartermaster Kenney and Commissary Bryan were faithful to their duty; and in behalf of the brigade I thank them for their provident care and activity. Especial praise is due Surgeons Trader and Shoot, Assistant Surgeons Edwards, Chastain, and Hart for their activity on the field and their kind and untiring effort in behalf of the wounded.

Since the 23d day of September the soldiers of this brigade have been in the saddle almost day and night, without a change of clothing and much of the time on half rations, yet they were never heard to murmur. The stubborn courage, dash, and discipline exhibited by

* Not found, but see table, p. 344.

them are worthy of the highest commendation, and have written the names of the Missouri State Militia on the page of history side by side with the best soldiers in the Union army.

Acknowledging the high military abilities and persevering energy of Major-General Pleasonton in securing to the country the splendid and gratifying results of this arduous campaign,

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. F. PHILIPS,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Lieut. CLIFFORD THOMSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Division.

SAINT LOUIS, MO., *November 30, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements and actions of the First Brigade while operating under Brigadier-General Sanborn, commanding in the late campaign after the rebel forces under Price. This report has been thus far deferred on account of my serious affliction of sore eyes and prostrate health:

On the 8th day of October I had been engaged all the afternoon skirmishing and fighting with the enemy from Jefferson City west to the Moreau. At night I had selected position and gone into camp when I received the order assigning me to the command of the First Brigade of your cavalry division. The brigade was composed of the First Iowa Cavalry, Major McDermott commanding; First Missouri State Militia, Col. James McFerran commanding; Fourth Missouri State Militia, Maj. G. W. Kelly commanding; Seventh Missouri State Militia, Lieut. Col. T. T. Crittenden commanding. On the morning of the 9th I moved at 5 a. m. and pressed rapidly forward to the junction of the two roads leading from Jefferson City to Russellville, where I found that the general commanding had passed with the remainder of the division, and had struck the enemy's rear and was pressing him with great vigor through Russellville. I closed up immediately and so marched until we arrived at this town. Here it was determined, in view of the enemy's supposed purpose to carry his main column to Versailles, to move on his right flank and gain California at an early hour. I was ordered to bring up my brigade and take the advance on account of my knowledge of the route. I had not gone far before I discovered that the enemy had sent no inconsiderable force directly in my advance toward California, and on reaching an eminence within one mile of the town we discovered the enemy had formed a junction there of his entire army and had left Marmaduke's command to dispute our entrance into town. He was already in position just south and southeast of town, and on the appearance of the head of my column he opened on us with two guns, compelling us to halt, as our approach was through a narrow lane and the enemy had perfect range. The advance regiment, Fourth Missouri State Militia, was immediately dismounted and deployed, and the remaining regiments of the Missouri State Militia were promptly up and the Seventh thrown forward dismounted, with instructions to extend the line well to the left and move boldly on the enemy's right, while the First Missouri State Militia was dismounted and advanced to the center of our line, forming the connection between the Fourth and Seventh. The First Iowa Cavalry was quickly up and was held in reserve.

In the meantime a section of artillery, under command of Lieutenant Wachsman, had come up and was by the general commanding (who

was ever present to see and direct) assigned a position and began to reply vigorously to the enemy's guns, now shelling us with fearful precision. Our whole line advanced. The Seventh Missouri State Militia had moved at the double quick, driving in the enemy's skirmishers, and came so suddenly upon his right as to cause it to give way as if alarmed. The enemy's position was much exposed to our artillery, and his center, to which this artillery practice was directed, soon fell in sympathy with his right, and the whole began to retire hurriedly to the north side of the railroad track, leaving their guns only partially protected, which fact was quickly discovered by the officer in charge, who "limbered up" and left in hot haste. The Seventh Missouri State Militia had now reached the town, and soon swept it of the last straggling rebel.

My casualties in this engagement were, 1 officer (Lieutenant Chambers), 1 sergeant, and 1 private Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, wounded with a shell. The loss of the enemy was much greater. Citizens of California informed me that they carried off large numbers of wounded.

I cannot in this connection fail to make special mention of the cool bravery and gallant conduct of Robert Weeden, commissary sergeant, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia. When his regiment dismounted to fight he had tied his horse, and supposing the men left in charge of the horses would bring his forward, as they brought up the others, he went on into town with the command. At dark he discovered that his horse had been left behind. Accompanied by Colonel Crittenden's orderly (Joshua Lorring, a faithful friend and true soldier) he started in quest of his horse. While hunting him these boys were approached from the brush by a party of straggling rebels, some twelve in number, who inquired of Weeden, "Is our boys in town?" "Yes." "Who are you; what commands?" was Weeden's inquisitive answer. "I belong to Colonel Slemons' brigade," was the answer. As quick as thought, Weeden shot him. The orderly's pistol failed to fire. Weeden followed up his work and succeeded in killing some three or four of the party and mortally wounding one. He got his horse, returned to camp, and in his coolness and modesty, scarcely considered his adventure worthy of mention.

We encamped with the division for the night at California. At daylight on the morning of the 10th we marched west, on the line of the Pacific Railroad, via Clark's Station and Tipton, when we turned north and moved direct for Boonville. After arriving within ten miles of Boonville night was on us, and we bivouacked for the night near the "coal mines." On the morning of the 11th our line of march was resumed. When a short distance out, in obedience to orders from the general commanding, I sent one regiment, the First Missouri State Militia, under command of Colonel McFerran, toward the Bell Air and Boonville road, on our left, with instructions to pass over, if possible, to the Boonville and Georgetown road, and ascertain whether or not the enemy was passing on these roads, and to gather all the information possible of his movements and designs. About 4 p. m. I was ordered to move with my entire brigade over to Georgetown and Boonville road, and if the enemy was found moving his train westward, to attack it fiercely, and if unable to capture it to punish him severely, or if the enemy was found not to have moved west to attack his pickets, drive them in, and feel the enemy well, to ascertain his position and strength. It was dark when I tapped the road. I soon learned the enemy was not passing west. Eight miles from Boonville I found

his outer pickets, drove them in, capturing their good hot supper, just prepared at a hospitable farm house. We steadily drove the pickets, constantly increasing in strength, for two miles, where I found the enemy had several regiments in camp and seemed disposed to resist stubbornly my farther advance. Disposing the command so as to secure it against any movement the enemy might attempt on me under cover of the darkness, I pressed forward two battalions of the Fourth Missouri State Militia to annoy and punish the enemy. The night was so dark and the enemy's position so well taken, it was found difficult and hazardous to approach him, without incurring more danger to my own men than I could reasonably hope to justify in any success to be had in a general onset. I therefore contented myself with keeping up a brisk and alarming fire on the enemy's camp from 11 p. m. to 2 a. m. with the two battalions, while the remainder of the command slept quietly beyond range. The enemy, however, was kept up in force and in line much of the night. Leaving these battalions to demonstrate on the enemy, I quietly withdrew the brigade and rejoined the division at 4 a. m. on the Tipton road. Colonel McFerran had, prior to my arrival with the remainder of the brigade, come upon several bands, a hundred strong in some cases, chasing and firing on and wounding quite a number and capturing some horses and arms. My entire casualties through the night were, 1 man, William Wiley, private, Company G, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, killed, and 2 men Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia captured. I have since learned that we wounded quite a number of the enemy, some of whom died.

I cannot in this connection refrain from expressing my admiration of and wonder at the temerity of that generalship which enabled our division commander, with a force of less than 5,000 cavalry, to hang for two nights and one day on the enemy's rear, front, and flank, threatening, attacking, and seemingly investing an army of 15,000 or 20,000 men. The military strategy thus displayed was as splendid as the boldness of design was magnificent in execution.

On the 12th we were compelled to fall back to California for rations. Returning on the 13th to the theater of operations it was found the enemy had left Boonville and moved west. We followed briskly, passing through Palestine and Bell Air, and encamped for the night at Nebo Church. On the 14th we marched at 4 a. m., via Pleasant Green, Cole Neck, and Georgetown, and encamped for the night on the Basin Fork of Blackwater, having marched forty-three miles that day. On the 15th I sent heavy scouting parties north through Brownsville and moved the brigade fourteen miles to vicinity of Cook's Store, La Fayette County. Here we remained until the 17th. In this time I sent heavy reconnoitering parties toward Waverly and Grand Pass, driving in and skirmishing with the enemy's flanking parties and gathering much valuable information. On the 17th I dropped down the road toward Georgetown about twelve miles, and went into camp on the Bee Branch, a tributary of the Blackwater, throwing out parties of observation to the north, it being understood the enemy were in that direction in camp, and sending Lieutenant-Colonel Crittenden to Georgetown after a commissary train made up for the use of the division. It was here I learned that Capt. O. B. Queen, Company M, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, sent to Sedalia on the night of the 15th after ammunition, was found at that town with his squadron by the rebel forces under Jeff. Thompson when they captured the place on the 15th. Captain Queen, supposing it was [the duty] of the militia forces to defend it, very properly placed his command behind the im-

provised defenses and was fighting gallantly, when he discovered that the garrison had precipitately [fled] and left him unsupported. He was instantly surrounded and himself and 27 of his company were taken prisoners and irregularly paroled by the mock general Jeff. Thompson. On the 19th I moved my brigade, in obedience to the order of the general commanding, about seven miles to Brownsville, with instructions to observe the movements of the enemy and collect important information. At Brownsville Brig. Gen. E. B. Brown came up, and in pursuance of orders of Major-General Pleasonton assumed command of the brigade, whereupon I returned to the command of my regiment.

Thanking the staff officers of General Sanborn for the uniform courtesy shown me, and acknowledging my grateful appreciation of the marked kindness of the general himself,

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN F. PHILIPS,
Col. Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Comdg. Brigade.

Capt. WILLIAM T. KITTREDGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the District of Central Missouri, commanded by Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown.**

October 6.—The enemy, variously estimated at from 12,000 to 20,000 strong, under command of Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, entered the eastern portion of the district about twenty-five miles south and east of Jefferson City, the headquarters of the district having been temporarily transferred to that point in order to operate more effectually against the enemy (who was known to have entered the southeast portion of the State some days previous), and on the evening of the 6th instant the Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry engaged the enemy's advance at the crossing of the Osage River at Prince's Shoals. In this engagement Second Lieut. George W. Houts, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry, was severely wounded in the face.

October 7.—The enemy advanced on Jefferson City, driving our forces before them, and approaching within full view of the line of the rifle-pits and earth-works that had been hastily thrown up for its defense. After a skirmish of an hour and three quarters, evidently for the purpose of ascertaining our strength and position, and during which we succeeded in dismounting one of the enemy's guns, the enemy moved west and abandoned the attack.

October 8.—Major-General Pleasonton arrived at Jefferson City, and on assuming command at once started the entire mounted force (about 3,500 men) in pursuit of the enemy, who was now moving leisurely toward Boonville, occupying that place from the 9th to the 11th instant. The enemy moved toward Lexington; thence toward Independence, at which place they were overtaken by Major-General Pleasonton on the 22d and driven from the town. On the following day they were hotly engaged and routed on the Big Blue (seven miles south and east of Kansas City), and at once moved south along the border of the district until overtaken on the 25th instant at Mine Creek, near Fort Scott, where they again made a stand, and after a spirited engagement were routed with a loss of over 100 in killed and wounded, 10 pieces of artillery, and

*From monthly return.

about 1,500 prisoners. Among the latter were Major-General Marmaduke and Brigadier-General Cabell, and a number of colonels and other officers of a lesser rank.

The following comprises the officers of this command killed and wounded: Lieuts. John D. Mullins, Allen W. Christian, James L. Combs, Columbus Dale, Walter B. Hamilton, James H. Bryson, and Frank Barkley, and Capts. William D. Blair and Abram B. Vansickler.

No. 17.

Report of Col. James McFerran, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

WARRENSBURG, MO., *November 7, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that pursuant to your orders I marched with my command of five companies, on the 25th day of September last, from camp on the Sni, eight miles southwest of Lexington, leaving Company M at that place, and arrived at Sedalia on the 26th, where I was joined by Major Mullins' battalion and Company K, and remained until the 29th and marched for Jefferson City, arriving there on the 1st day of October, when I was joined by Company B and remained until the 2d, and then marched to Mike Clark's Ford, on the Osage, with 200 men to guard that and other fords against the advance of Price's army. No enemy appearing I was ordered back to Jefferson City on the 5th, and at 5 a. m. on the 7th took position with my regiment in the rifle-pits on the extreme left of the defenses of the city and remained there during the fight and until Price's army had passed. On the 8th I joined other troops in the rear of Price's army, and on the evening of the 9th was present at the fight with his rear guard at California. On the 10th marched by way of Tipton and camped ten miles south of Boonville. On the 11th, by order of General Sanborn, I was sent with my regiment to reconnoiter the Boonville and Georgetown road to ascertain whether the enemy had moved west from Boonville or not. Found the road strongly picketed by the enemy and drove the pickets in; shortly afterward two squadrons, under the command of Major Mullins, charged a party of the enemy numbering about 100 who were marching on the road toward Boonville, and dispersed them. No casualties on our side; loss of the enemy not ascertained. After an examination of the road, and exhausting all sources of information, I became fully satisfied that no portion of the rebel army had moved west, and immediately sent a dispatch to General Sanborn to that effect and returned the same night to General Sanborn's camp, having traveled about twenty miles and completed the reconnaissance as directed. On the 12th marched to California after subsistence, and on the 13th returned to the Georgetown road and encamped about fifteen miles southwest of Boonville, Price's army in the meantime having moved to Saline County. On the 14th the command marched by way of Georgetown and encamped about eighteen miles west of Sedalia on the Lexington road. On the 15th marched to the vicinity of Cook's Store, in La Fayette County, and camped. On the 16th I was ordered by General Sanborn, with my regiment, to reconnoiter in the direction of Waverly, and if necessary visit that place to ascertain the position and movements of the enemy. I marched my regiment to the vicinity of Waverly and obtained the desired information. The sun was setting when we turned toward camp, twenty miles distant. Price's army, 20,000 strong, lay in and below Waverly. What seemed to be a large cloud of dust to the east and passing to our rear

admonished us that the enemy was making an effort to cut off our return. The darkness of the night favored us, and by taking a more westerly route than we had traveled in the day we escaped this force and also that commanded by Jeff. Thompson, who, returning from Sedalia laden with spoil, placed his men, 2,000 strong, in ambush on the road we had passed over in the morning to intercept our return.

On the 17th marched to Fisher's Creek, in Pettis County, and camped and remained there until the 19th, when we marched to Boonville, in Saline County. Here you assumed command of the First Brigade, of which my regiment formed a part, which from the time of leaving Jefferson City had, by order of General Sanborn, been under the command of Col. John F. Philips, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia. On the 20th we marched to Lewis' plantation, in La Fayette County. On the 21st marched to the Sni, eight miles southwest of Lexington. On the 22d marched to Independence, arriving there in the afternoon; I was immediately ordered to the front with my regiment at a gallop and to advance upon the enemy on the Kansas City road. After moving about half a mile from the town my advance was fired upon; my regiment was then dismounted, and all, except one company held in reserve, advanced against the enemy. It soon became apparent that the enemy in large force was posted in the timber that skirts the southwest portion of the town and held the fences and hedge in front of his position, and were attempting to flank my regiment on the right and left. This made it necessary to extend my lines to near three quarters of a mile in length. I now discovered that the enemy was increasing his forces and that my regiment was in imminent danger of being overpowered and cut to pieces. I immediately sent messengers to you with the information, and about this time I sent forward the company held in reserve to support the left in peril. After considerable delay, for which you were not responsible, I sent other messengers to you, and still others, in relation to our condition. After near one hour the Fourth Missouri State Militia appeared upon the ground, and shortly afterward a battalion of the Seventh Missouri State Militia, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Crittenden, who, assisted by Neill's battalion, gallantly charged the enemy and drove him from his positions. As these respective commands arrived I sent them to the left, just in time to prevent disaster, and where up to this moment my gallant men, under the command of the heroic Neill, had maintained the protracted and unequal contest, while Mullins and Burris with their brave battalions held the overpowering force at bay on the right and in the center. In the meantime the enemy placed several pieces of artillery in position and were shelling my men furiously over the entire field. Shortly afterward you arrived with two pieces of artillery and opened upon the enemy, and about the same time the remainder of the Seventh Missouri State Militia, under the command of Colonel Philips, also arrived and supported the artillery. During all this time the town of Independence was occupied in force by Federal soldiers, well supplied with artillery, and yet for near one hour my regiment with forlorn hope battled against fearful odds, perhaps ten times their numbers.

The fight continued until sunset, when the enemy retreated toward the Blue, pursued by my regiment, assisting the advance of Colonel Winslow's brigade, and continued to press his rear in the darkness of the night, encountering at short intervals heavy volleys of musketry from the almost concealed enemy, who slowly and stubbornly retreated. My men having traveled forty miles, and been engaged with the enemy since about 3 p. m., withdrew from the contest, and pursuant to orders remounted and moved forward with the brigade. The column contin-

ued to advance, Colonel Winslow's brigade being in the front; a few volleys more and the column halted at about 10 p. m., the conflict ending for the night. My men lay upon the road during the remainder of the night, holding their horses, both having been without food since the night previous, and suffering for water. About sunrise in the morning, and before any orders were received to move, I was relieved of the command of my regiment by orders of Major-General Pleasonton, without any cause being given. It is but justice in this connection to say that the regiment during the campaign, while under my command, nobly did its duty, and at the battle of Independence behaved with distinguished gallantry.

The casualties in the campaign, while under my command, are as follows: In action October 6, 1864, on the Osage, below Jefferson City, Private Wright J. Hill, Company D, killed; Private Samuel Howard, Company D, mortally wounded; Sergt. James C. Triplett, Company D, slightly wounded; Private Warren Mitchell, Company D, severely wounded; Private George Tyler, Company H, killed; Private John Harvey, Company H, mortally wounded; Private Jacob Evans, Company H, mortally wounded; Private William Collier, Company H, mortally wounded. In action on the move west of Jefferson City, October 8, 1864, Sergt. William L. Powell, Company A, slightly wounded. At Sedalia, Mo., October 15, 1864, George Sparks, private, Company D, killed. At Georgetown, Mo., October 14, 1864, Lieutenant Triplett, Company D, was severely wounded by pistol-shot, accidentally. In action at Independence, October 22, 1864, First Lieut. John D. Mullins, Company F, mortally wounded; Private William H. Royston, Company A, severely wounded; Private Richard Owings, Company G, severely wounded; Corpl. James C. Wood, Company K, slightly wounded.

In relation to the action on the Osage, below Jefferson City, October 6, 1864, you are respectfully referred to Major Mullins' official report, a copy of which is forwarded herewith, marked A.

The loss sustained by the enemy in the several engagements is not known, but must have been severe.

At Independence Colonel Young was mortally wounded and Captain Davidson severely wounded, both of the C. S. Army, fell into our hands as prisoners of war.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES McFERRAN,
Colonel First Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

General E. B. BROWN,
Jefferson City, Mo.

No. 18.

Report of Lieut. Col. Bazel F. Lazear, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST MISSOURI STATE MILITIA CAVALRY,
Warrensburg, Mo., November 5, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report for the information of the colonel commanding First Brigade, Cavalry Division, that by verbal orders of Major-General Pleasonton, commanding, on the morning of the 23d of October, 1864, I assumed command of the First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, near Big Blue. I moved forward across Big Blue and with the balance of the brigade was engaged with the enemy during the whole of the action of that day.

Our casualties were as follows:* Total—killed, 3; wounded, 9.

After a rapid march from Big Blue to the Marais des Cygnes, and immediately after crossing said stream, my regiment, being in the advance of the brigade, was ordered to move forward rapidly to engage the enemy; after moving from three to four miles across the prairie at a trot and gallop, my skirmishers reported the enemy formed in line of battle in my front and extending far to my left and some distance to my right. I moved up my line to supporting distance of my skirmishers' line and halted to await the balance of the brigade, which was moving up in columns on my right. Seeing that I was outflanked on my left, I sent a messenger to General Pleasonton to acquaint [him] of the facts. He sent an order in return that he would send assistance immediately. About this time I saw the promised assistance coming up on my left. At this moment my skirmish line was ordered to open fire, which drove in the enemy's skirmish line, and the enemy opened on my command with two pieces of artillery posted opposite my left. In a very few minutes the force on my left came up at a charge, and as soon as their lines, or as I think two columns of squadrons, was in line with me, I ordered the charge and advanced under a heavy fire of artillery and small-arms to within 200 to 300 yards, when I saw the force on my left begin to falter and fall back. I ordered my command to halt and commence firing. After a sharp action of some minutes the enemy began to give way on their extreme left; at the same time a move from their right, which I supposed was to support their left, but in a moment I noticed one of their battle-flags, which was immediately in my front, begin to move to the rear. I ordered my command to get ready to move forward, the most of them being dismounted on account of being armed with long guns. In the meantime the Fourth and Seventh Regiments Cavalry Missouri State Militia, on my right, were pressing down on the enemy, and in advance of my line; the force on my left had rallied and were bearing down on the left. A general charge was made, resulting in the capture of a number of guns, a large lot of horses and prisoners. I could not designate any particular capture made by my command, as I ordered them to let all prisoners, horses, &c., pass to the rear, and we moved forward rapidly until portions of my command, the Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and some Iowa troops, were far in the advance, when we were ordered to halt by, I think, an aide of General Curtis. Thus ended the battle of Little Osage or Mine Creek.

Our casualties were as follows:* Total—wounded, 27; missing, 1. Loss in horses in engagement in 23d and 25th, 21 killed and 55 wounded, and equipments lost.

Marched to Fort Scott, remained there until 28th, when I was ordered to Warrensburg, Mo., as guard to captured artillery and prisoners of war, where we arrived in the vicinity the 1st of November; 2d turned over prisoners and moved into Warrensburg and reported to the commanding officer of the post by order of Major General Rosecrans.

Where all have done so well as the officers and men of my command have done it would be unjust to mention any particular officer or man; all have done their duty and done it well and satisfactory to their commanding officer.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

B. F. LAZEAR,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. J. H. LITTLE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

* Nominal list omitted.

No. 19.

Report of Maj. Alexander W. Mullins, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACH. FIRST MISSOURI STATE MILITIA CAV.,
Jefferson, Mo., October 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 1st instant, in obedience to orders from Col. James McFerran, I reported to Col. John F. Philips, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, with Companies D, F, H, I, and L, First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, for orders. This battalion, with other forces, all under command of Colonel Philips, moved to the Osage River on the evening of the 1st instant and encamped near Bolton's Ford. From that time until 6th instant the command was constantly engaged in reconnoitering and scouting the country along and south of the Osage to ascertain the whereabouts of the rebel forces under Price and to resist as far as possible his advance. On the 6th instant while marching down the Osage on the north side it became apparent from the heaving firing of artillery that the rebel forces had attacked the guard posted at a ford below Castle Rock and that they were attempting to effect a crossing at that point; information was very soon received that some of their forces had already crossed the river. I was ordered by Colonel Philips to move forward with my command and vigorously attack the enemy and if possible regain possession of the ford. I had advanced about half a mile in the direction of the ford at which the rebel forces were crossing when my advance encountered a force of the enemy. My whole force, except Company H, which was held in reserve, was ordered forward, dismounted for action. Company I had been previously detached. Just before this I had been re-enforced by Lieutenant Houts, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, in command of a detachment of some ten or twelve of said regiment which had been thrown out on the road as picket. I pressed on and drove the enemy for some distance after driving his advance out of a strong position in a deep ravine and occupied the same with my command. I sent word to Colonel Philips advising him of the situation; that the enemy seemed to be bringing up a large force and was also swinging around to flank us, and consequently asked for immediate support. I maintained this position from fifteen to twenty-five minutes, a brisk skirmish being kept up all the while, when the enemy moved up in overwhelming numbers, attacking in front and on both flanks. No support having arrived and being unable to resist the attack my command was compelled to fall back.

My casualties in this engagement are as follows: Private Wright J. Hill, Company D, killed; Private Samuel Howard, Company D, mortally wounded; Sergt. James C. Triplett, Company D, slightly wounded; Private Warren Mitchell, Company D, severely wounded in head; Private George Tyler, Company H, killed; Private John Harvey, Company H, wounded in hip, mortally; Private Jacob Evans, Company H, wounded in face, mortally; Private William Collier, Company H, wounded in bowels, mortally. Lieutenant Houts, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, was severely wounded in face while bravely resisting the enemy's advance. Captain Meredith did all that a brave man and true soldier could do to save the command when retreat became inevitable. Captain Moore is entitled to equal commendation for his conduct throughout the engagement. I do not know what pun-

ishment was inflicted upon the enemy, but some of their wounded that subsequently fell into the hands of our forces admitted it to have been severe, greater than ours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALEX. W. MULLINS,
Major First Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Lieut. T. DOYLE,
Adjutant.

No. 20.

Report of Maj. George W. Kelly, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. FOURTH MISSOURI STATE MILITIA CAVALRY,
Sedalia, Mo., November 3, 1864.

COLONEL: In compliance with circular dated headquarters First Brigade, Cavalry Division, Warrensburg, Mo., November 2, 1864, I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 23d of October, 1864, the Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, under my command, forming part of First Brigade, Cavalry Division, then near the ford of Big Blue, moved forward in accordance with your orders, under a heavy fire from the enemy, and crossed Big Blue about 8 a. m. After passing the ford, which was accomplished with difficulty, owing to the many obstructions thrown in the way, I was ordered to charge the ridge beyond held by the enemy. Finding this would be impracticable, I received instructions from Colonel Winslow, [Fourth] Brigade, to dismount my command and move forward on the extreme left, which I immediately did under a steady fire from the enemy. I moved forward in line of skirmishers and endeavored to drive the enemy from the crest of the hill immediately in my front, which I succeeded in doing after a contest of two hours. In this engagement Capt. W. D. Blair was killed while gallantly leading his battalion, and Captains Vansickler and Hamilton, Lieutenants Dale and Bryson, wounded while leading their respective commands. Among the enlisted men I lost 7 killed and 44 wounded, a list of which I transmit herewith.* From this point I moved forward in connection with the brigade in the pursuit of the enemy and encamped for the night near Little Santa Fé. Moved at daybreak on the 24th; marched all day on Fort Scott road; passed Finneysville in the evening; halted a short time about midnight near Trading Post, Kans. Moved forward early on October 25, passed Trading Post and crossed the Marais des Cygnes, pressing the enemy before us. After passing the Marais des Cygnes, the brigade being in the advance, forced the enemy to a stand at Mine Creek, and in compliance with orders from you I formed the right wing of the brigade and took part in the grand charge then made, which resulted in the rout of the enemy. In this charge I captured 2 pieces of artillery and 1 battle-flag, besides many prisoners, the number of which I am not able to give. My loss in this engagement slight. I moved forward and encamped on the morning of the 26th at Fort Scott. On the morning of the 27th marched east twenty miles and encamped on Little Dry Wood. October 28, moved forward to Lamar, thence back to Muddy Creek. October 29, moved to Fort Scott, marched thence via Papinville and Germantown, to Warrensburg, Mo., where I arrived with my command on the 2d instant. Total distance marched from October 25 to November 2, 260 miles.

* Omitted.

I cannot close this report without recurring to the noble conduct of the officers and men of my command in the engagements of the 23d and 25th of October. Captains Missemer and Vansickler, Lieutenants Kerr and Ruley, deserve especial mention. Among the non-commissioned to whom praise is due are Sergeants Sapp and Grice, commanding companies, and Sergt. James R. Harman, who captured the battle-flag.

I am, colonel, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. KELLY,
Major Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Col. JOHN F. PHILIPS,
Commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 21.

Report of Capt. Oscar B. Queen, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

JEFFERSON CITY, *October 18, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the facts connected with the capture of a portion of Company M, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, under my command, at Sedalia, Mo., on October 15, 1864, by the Confederates under General Jeff. Thompson:

By order of Lieut. Col. T. T. Crittenden, commanding Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, I left General Sanborn's command sixteen miles from Georgetown on Lexington road October 15, and proceeded with thirty-three men to meet and guard an ammunition train from Georgetown back to the command. On reaching there I could hear nothing of it, but after remaining two hours or more information was brought me that Shelby was two miles below Georgetown, advancing with the intention of attacking Sedalia. I proceeded to Sedalia and found everything under excitement, the information having reached there in advance of me. I found the city well intrenched with a force of between 600 and 800 men, citizens and home guards, under command of Colonel Crawford, Enrolled Missouri Militia. Colonel Crawford requested me to place my men in the intrenchments and help to defend the town. I accordingly dismounted my men and had scarcely placed them at a suitable point before the rebels made their appearance and commenced bombarding the town. On the first explosion of shell my citizen support deserted me, and one general stampede of citizens and home guards took place, notwithstanding the efforts of Captains Wilson and Darst to keep them to the work. I was occupied during this time with the column advancing on the point where I was, and held it at a respectable distance until the enemy's remaining force had advanced over the deserted fortifications in my rear and taken possession of the town. Charging up on my rear they demanded my surrender. I saw immediately that I was deserted, and in order to save my little squad I must yield, which I did. I understand that Colonel Crawford ordered the evacuation of the town immediately after the rebels came in sight; if so, he was very culpable in not notifying me of the fact. I received no word or order from him from the moment he requested me to help defend the town up to my surrender. I went in with thirty-three men, ten of whom escaped, having been left to guard my horses. We were treated well and my men protected. Late in the evening General Thompson ordered my men in front of

the depot, where he administered an oath to them that they would "not again take up arms until exchanged," telling them if he again captured them before an exchange he would kill them. I protested against such parole and told him it would not be respected by the Federal Government. He took my address, Lieut. R. T. Berry's, my first lieutenant, and Lieutenant Knapp's, Seventeenth Illinois Volunteers, charging me at the time that he would hold me responsible for forty-five men. The increase on the number of my men arose from the fact that there were small squads of soldiers from other commands there at the time sick—Seventeenth Illinois Volunteers, Merrill's Horse, Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and Fourth were represented. On the morning of the 16th I left Sedalia on the cars and reached Jefferson City October 17, 1864, where I now respectfully await orders, deeming the parole worthless.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

OSCAR B. QUEEN,
Captain, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Capt. A. R. CONKLIN,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Central Missouri.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
Jefferson City, Mo., October 18, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Rosecrans, commanding Department of the Missouri.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General.

[Second indorsement.]

His parole is not binding.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Commanding.

No. 22.

Reports of Col. Rudolph Poser, Thirty-fourth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

CAMP COLLEGE HILL,
Jefferson City, October 6, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report to you that I found no enemy's forces on this side of the Osage River, viz, between the railroad and the Missouri River, and also about one mile and a half south of the Pacific Railroad. As soon as I arrived at the Moreau bridge I sent out skirmishers on the above-mentioned tract of land, and arrived safely at the Osage River. The bridge and the buildings on both sides of the river had been burned, as already stated in my dispatch. After the train left with the dispatches to you, two companies from my regiment and one company from the Twenty-eighth Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia arrived at the other side of the bridge. Inclosed you will find the reports of the commanders, Captains Onken, Eitzen, and Sullins. One company from this command, was taken prisoners, commanded by Lieutenant Berger.

From the best information I could get the enemy's force is about 500 to 800 strong with some two or three pieces of artillery. The different commanders on the Pacific Railroad retreated under great excitement—Enrolled Militia.

General, I hope you will give me a chance to blot out the stain from the regiment.

I have the honor to be, general, respectfully, yours,

R. POSER,

Col., Comdg. Thirty fourth Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

General BROWN.

COLLEGE HILL,

Jefferson City, Mo., October 10, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report to you that the second lieutenant, Slinkman, of Company D, Thirty-fourth Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, arrived here with twenty of his command; also one private of Company B, Captain Eitzen, and two privates of Company H, of Captain Koenig's command. Lieutenant Slinkman reports to me that the whole command, under Lieutenant Berger, were taken prisoners on the east side of Osage bridge on Wednesday, the 6th of October; that he was marched to California, and there paroled with his men, with one private of Company B, and two privates of Company H. The commanding officer, Lieutenant Berger, with twenty-nine men, had already been paroled at Westphalia. We were attacked at the bridge by a force of about 200 men at about 7 a. m. We fired on them from the block-house and drove them back. After that they sent in a flag of truce, upon which we surrendered, with their promise that they should parole us as soon as they could reach headquarters. Before we surrendered we found we were surrounded by about 2,500 men, with two pieces of artillery. After the surrender they took all our arms and ammunition, and stripped us of the necessary clothing. We were also treated very roughly by the men. Our rations were only one pint of flour and about one-fourth of a pound of bacon, and were marched most of the time at double-quick. At Westphalia we were informed that we had killed nine of the rebels and wounded two of them.

The number of arms and accouterments lost were as follows: 49 Austrian rifles and accouterments, and 100 rounds of ammunition for each man. The command at the bridge was strong: two commissioned officers and forty-nine enlisted men.

One commissioned officer and twenty-nine enlisted men were paroled at Westphalia. One second lieutenant and twenty enlisted men arrived here.

R. POSER,

Col., Comdg. Thirty-fourth Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

General E. B. BROWN.

No. 23.

Report of Capt. Francis Onken, Thirty-fourth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

CAMP COLLEGE HILL, *October 6, 1864.*

Companies A and B arrived at Gasconade bridge on the 3d of October about 2 o'clock. Both companies took possession of the

block-house west of the river; Captain Eitzen took command of the post. There were rumors about that the rebels were in or about Hermann. About 6 o'clock we heard cannons fired in the direction of Hermann. Two men of Captain Eitzen's threw away their arms and swore they would not stay to defend the bridge while their property in Hermann was destroyed. They started over the bridge toward Hermann. At about 10 o'clock they returned and reported the rebels in Hermann firing the town; that they had cannons on a train ready to go to Gasconade and destroy the bridge. Captain Eitzen went out of the block-house with his company, saying, "We have to fall back to Jefferson City;" most all of my men followed him out the house. I went out and called my men to come back, as I intended to stay there. Captain Eitzen said, "Captain Onken, I will stay by you," but I did not hear him order his men back. He started up the railroad and was soon out of sight. I called my men together, and found that I had but twenty-six men left; the others had gone with Captain Eitzen. I then sent a squad of men to the east side of the river to destroy the railroad. They took out some rails and threw them in the river. I sent two scouts across the Gasconade River on a crossing of roads toward Hermann to see whether they would send any force in our flank, as there is a ford in the river about two miles above the bridge. I also sent out two men to bring in horses and men to use as scouts. The first two scouts never returned, and were probably taken prisoners or killed.

Everything kept quiet till morning. We did not receive any reliable information about the rebels. In the afternoon I noticed four men on horseback on the bluff on the east side of the river; I sent a squad of four men over, who reported that they saw from twelve to fifteen men riding on the hills. They also were informed by a farmer's wife, who lives in sight of the bridge, that two rebel officers took dinner at his house the same day. Captain Eitzen came to me and asked me, within hearing of our men, what I was going to do, whether I was going to stay; that we were surrounded, and it was impossible for us to keep the post. I told him that I was going to stay. After awhile Captain Eitzen called the men together in camp, and after telling them that we were surrounded, asked them what they were going to do; whether they wanted to stay or leave in the morning at 4 o'clock. All men that wanted to leave should hold up their right hand; most all the men were in for leaving. A scout now came in and reported that he had been taken prisoner about four miles from camp, on the east side of the river. He reported that there was about a regiment of rebels lying around the hills near the river, and 6,000 more coming on boats. Another scout came in then, who reported he met with rebels, who fired at him. He came back through the woods, and saw several squads of rebels, who went around stealing horses from the farmers. Captain Eitzen reported that he had but sixteen of his men left. The picket reported he heard trees falling on the bluff in sight of the bridge. The men then all got up, and said they were going to leave right off. I took a hand-car and had the spare muskets and the cartridges put on; there went six men of my company with it. The hand-car I found burned about one mile this side of the Osage bridge. The men probably were taken prisoners. I staid in camp till all were gone. There were about ten men with me there when I started for Medora. Here I found Captain Eitzen. We heard the Osage bridge was burnt. We concluded to march to the bridge, and got there about 4 o'clock, afternoon. I never would left the Gasconade bridge if my men had staid with me. I

must state yet that Captain Eitzen, after he left the first night, came back after midnight with four men; they kept coming in, and at roll-call Captain Eitzen reported thirty-four men for duty.

FRANCIS ONKEN,
Capt. Company A, Thirty-fourth Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Colonel POSER,
Thirty-fourth Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia.

No. 24.

Report of Capt. Charles D. Eitzen, Thirty-fourth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

CAMP COLLEGE HILL,
Jefferson City, October 6, 1864.

I have the honor to report that I have returned with my command to Jefferson City, after many trials and difficulties, and give you below a condensed statement of my affairs. Under orders from you I started on the 3d day of this month with my company to the Gasconade bridge. Before starting I was very anxious to have my company properly clothed, but there being no time for it it could not be done. Most of my men were placed on open flat-cars in a heavy rain, which rain kept up all day. My men were perfectly drenched, and complained bitterly that the Government had not furnished them with proper clothing. Several of the men got sick; one was in a dying condition when we arrived at the bridge. As soon as I could get the men to quarters I sent my first lieutenant (the second lieutenant had been cut off at Franklin, to which place I had sent him to get provisions for the men then stationed at the Gasconade bridge, which orders were received from headquarters at Saint Louis, that I should draw my provisions there) in charge of the sick men to Hermann, there being no hospital at the Gasconade bridge. In doing this he was also cut off and has not returned to duty up to this time, which left me without a commissioned officer. About an hour after I had sent off the sick men to Hermann we heard cannonading in the direction of Hermann. We then moved all into the fort and I ordered everybody to carry water into the fort so that we could stand a siege, unless we were attacked by artillery, which the fort was unable to withstand, being only a log-house. After making all preparations for a regular siege, I lay down to rest a little, not having slept any the night before. I barely had lain down and gone to sleep when there was a great commotion in the fort, which was on account of some scouts coming in from Hermann, stating that Hermann had gone up and the whole town burnt, and that a train with two cannons was then coming up to attack us. This made a perfect uproar among the men, some of them throwing down their arms and said that they did not intend to stay at the bridge and save it, as Hermann was destroyed and their families would be brutally treated by the rebels, and as the fort could not stand artillery we would all be cut to pieces unless we evacuated it. It was impossible for me to stop the panic which seized the men; they ran out of the fort with Captain Onken's men. Of course I could not leave my men, and had to follow them. We formed in front of the fort on the railroad and were consulting what to do. One of Captain Onken's men, Mr. Ricketts, told me that we could tear up the culvert close by. We marched a short distance and intended to destroy the culvert, but could not get any tools for this purpose. The rain pouring down in tor-

reuts all the time, my men took possession of the first house in the woods. After my men became a little more composed I commanded them in the name of the State of Missouri and begged them for my sake to return with me to the fort. After much trouble part of the men started back with me to the fort, and I reported to Captain Onken at 12 o'clock that night. Some of the men had started for home and refused to go back to the fort, and I had no power to enforce it, saying that they would rather be shot on the spot than to stay and leave all their families at the mercy of the rebels. This was not only the case with my company, but also with Captain Onken's company, he having lost about as many men out of his company as mine. We held the fort until the next evening, when we were bound to evacuate it. Before doing so, however, I asked the opinion of all the men in the fort, whether there was the least chance of holding it, and it was the unanimous opinion that we had not the least chance to hold it, as we were surrounded on all sides by about 6,000 men, and that all our scouts had been captured except two, one of them having been fired at three times. By a very fortunate circumstance we had a good guide, and by circumventing their pickets we passed safely through and made that night a forced march to Medora. On the way I lost about ten of my men by not being able to stand the fatigue of the march. As soon as we got to Medora we heard that the Osage bridge was burning and that no dispatches could be sent to Jefferson City. A scout also came in stating that the country back of Medora was full of bushwhackers. We therefore made up our minds to march to the Osage bridge, intending to fight our way through or die in the attempt. When we arrived at the Osage bridge we found that the rebels had been there a few hours before and had left, but were still in the neighborhood. We fortunately got a flat-boat and got safely over, and reported to Colonel Poser. Colonel Poser informed me that I should consider myself under arrest, and I am so now in camp. As I can prove the above facts by my men and others who acted as scouts and came up with us, I ask the favor of you to have the general to institute a court of inquiry into my acts, and if found innocent of the charge made against me that I can be released again and take again charge of my company. My men are entirely broke down and are without the necessary clothing.

In the above statement I forgot to mention that before we evacuated the fort the pickets had reported that the rebels had cut down two trees in range of the fort and were then planting cannon, and that in case we did not evacuate the fort we would all be butchered. Even Captain Onken was unable any more to burn the bridge, as were his orders, in case he should have to evacuate the fort.

I am, colonel, respectfully, yours,

CHARLES D. EITZEN,

Capt. Company B, Thirty-fourth Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Colonel POSER.

No. 25.

Report of Capt. John Sullins, Thirty-four Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

CAMP COLLEGE HILL, *October 6, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that I took possession of the west end of Osage bridge October 3, p. m., with my command.

Lieutenant Berger took possession of the east end of the same bridge. I heard no report of the enemy before October 5. In the morning about daylight information came to me by Mr. Williams, a citizen from Loose Creek, that the buildings at that place had been destroyed. About sunrise Lieutenant Berger was attacked on three sides by a large force. I could see the enemy for at least a mile up the Osage River in force; they also fired across the river at our block-house; we returned the fire. After some ten or fifteen minutes Lieutenant Berger ceased firing. I saw a flag of truce come to Lieutenant Berger, and in a few minutes I saw that the enemy had full possession of the east end of the bridge, and that they had taken Lieutenant Berger's command prisoners, and had them marched up, from the best I could see, in range of our fire. In a few minutes I saw a flag of truce coming across the bridge to me. When it came it was a written demand for an unconditional surrender of me and my forces. I refused. The flag of truce returned—I being determined to hold the block-house and defend the bridge as far as I could. My men being raw militia, inexperienced in the service, and from what I could see the enemy was preparing to fire into our block-house with artillery, and there being a great panic among a portion of my men, and believing that if I fired across the river at the enemy that Lieutenant Berger's command would be exposed, and that it was impossible to hold the bridge against the artillery, we evacuated the place.

I am, colonel, respectfully, yours,

JOHN SULLINS,
Capt. Company C, Thirty-fourth Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Colonel POSER.

No. 26.

Report of Maj. Lewis H. Boutell, Forty-fifth Missouri Infantry.

HDQRS. FORTY-FIFTH MISSOURI VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
Jefferson City, October 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that Companies F and I, under command of Adjutant Hill, were, by order of General Brown, sent forward on the road leading from the fair-ground to support a section of artillery which was to be sent there. On reaching the road beyond the fair-ground Adjutant Hill was ordered by a general officer, name unknown (but think General Sanborn), to deploy one of the companies as skirmishers and to relieve his line, which he did. The road was filled by cavalry of the Sixth Missouri State Militia. After deploying one company as skirmishers he was ordered by a colonel of cavalry to send the company retained as reserve on the flank to prevent a flank movement. This was done, but it was too late, as the enemy were already on the flank. The cavalry left in disorder, and finding the infantry alone and unsupported, the order was given to fall back. The men, considering they had to be formed under fire and were new soldiers, behaved well. Loss as far as known was 3 killed, 9 wounded, and 4 missing in action.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. H. BOUTELL,
Major, Commanding.

Capt. JAMES H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Central Missouri.

No. 27.

Reports of Brig. Gen. John McNeil, U. S. Army, commanding District of Rolla and Second Brigade, Cavalry Division.

SAINT LOUIS, *November 23, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the action taken by the Second Brigade, Cavalry Division, while under the command of Major-General Pleasonton, in the late pursuit of the rebel army under Sterling Price:

In obedience to General Field Orders, No. 1, October 16, 1864, I joined the brigade and assumed command at Kirkpatrick's Mill the night of October 19. The brigade was composed of the following troops: The Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, U. S. Volunteers, under Colonel Beveridge; Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry Veteran Volunteers, under Colonel Catherwood; Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, under Lieutenant Colonel Eppstein; and detachments of Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Draper; Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Matthews; Seventh Kansas Cavalry, U. S. Volunteers, under Major Malone; Second Missouri Cavalry, U. S. Volunteers (Merrill's Horse), under Captain Houston. At 2.30 a. m. I moved, pursuant to orders, to Davis' Bridge, reaching it about noon, and waited the arrival of the other brigades. At 2 p. m. received orders to move on in the direction of Lexington. Camped at dark within ten miles of that place, when I received orders to occupy the city that night. Immediately broke up camp and entered Lexington at 12 o'clock that night. The Fifth Missouri State Militia, Lieutenant-Colonel Eppstein, in advance, was fired on by two separate parties in the suburbs of the town, but steadily pushing forward dispersed them and captured seven prisoners. Finding the city evacuated by the enemy, I bivouacked my men in the streets, and awaited morning, having marched day and night without an opportunity for feeding horses. No forage in Lexington, and by order of general commanding, I moved in the morning (21st of October) via Waverly, and was compelled to camp at night on Fire Creek Prairie, again without forage. I marched at 5 a. m. (October 22) to the crossing of the Little Blue, where we found the bridge destroyed and the ford impracticable for wagons and artillery. A temporary bridge was rapidly constructed under the supervision of the commanding general, and artillery and train crossed, while, with a part of my brigade, I went forward and attacked the enemy's rear guard, composed of two brigades, General Fagan's division. I deployed everything, and steadily drove the enemy from position after position (although he was supported by well-served artillery) until he was forced several miles to the edge of Independence. The skirmishing was at times heavy, and the artillery of the enemy admirably served, but my officers and men held their ground at all points and punished the enemy severely. Being ordered to charge, I mounted my regiments as they came up, ordering the Thirteenth Missouri Veteran Volunteers to charge through the town, and fall on the enemy's rear, saber in hand. This order was gallantly executed, Colonel Catherwood leading the charge. This charge was brilliantly supported by the Seventh Kansas and Seventeenth Illinois charging in close order, and resulted in the capture of two guns, and the killing and wounding and capturing a large number of the enemy. For the casualties of this day I respectfully refer you to reports of the regimental officers and of Surgeon Cundiff, acting brigade surgeon. I

am confident that this day's work of the Second Brigade did much to convince the enemy of the fighting qualities of our men and to inspire a wholesome respect for their prowess, thereby aiding us much in subsequent attacks.

I moved at 12 o'clock that night under orders to march to the junction of the Independence with the Little Santa Fé road, after leaving the Third Missouri State Militia, Lieutenant-Colonel Matthews, as a provost guard at Independence, by order commanding general. At 4 a. m. October 23 I flanked a large camp on the opposite side of the Blue, and near the Byram's Ford. I ascertained it to be the enemy. I sent a detachment of the Second Missouri Cavalry (Merrill's Horse) to the ford. Halted to feed horses, having marched two days and nearly two nights included without forage. At daybreak a heavy firing commenced on my right and in the direction of Westport. I moved on toward Hickman Mills, expecting to be able to strike Price's flank, moving cautiously about four miles, firing having ceased for some time, when suddenly I found myself in contact with the entire force of the enemy. I at once formed my brigade in line, advanced my skirmishers, and opened on their column with a section of Captain Montgomery's battery (3-inch Rodman rifles). The enemy had formed their line of three lines deep and actually surrounded me on three sides. My skirmishers (Seventh Kansas and Merrill's Horse) most gallantly pressed up to the main line of the enemy's center. In the meantime he had placed batteries in three different locations and opened a well-directed crossfire upon Montgomery; I was consequently compelled to move him some 400 yards to the left, recall my skirmish line, and occupy the new position. I determined to hold this position at all hazards, in hopes that the remaining brigades would come up. Toward night the enemy retired, leaving about 40 of their dead on the ground. In the morning (October 24) pushed on their trail, passing between Hickman Mills and Little Santa Fé, where I then learned that the other brigades were; pushed on and met them about twelve miles from Santa Fé, where our lines of march intersected. I finally fell into column in rear of First Brigade, and having received orders to move forward and attack the enemy wherever I should find him, day or night, I continued marching until 12 p.m., when I received an order through a staff officer of General Sanborn (Lieutenant Murphy), given in the name of the commanding general, to halt and go into camp, carefully keeping down all fires, as we were in shelling distance of the enemy. About daylight I learned from Major McKenny, of Major-General Curtis' staff, that an error must have been committed, as no such order could have been given by the general commanding. I immediately moved forward at a trot.

Daylight October 25, at Trading Post, an orderly rode up, directing me to hold the river and act as a reserve. In a few minutes later, however, I received through Major Charlot, of General Curtis' staff, an order to hasten up at speed, and to leave my artillery with Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen, commanding Fourth Brigade, after which it did not report to me during the expedition. I immediately started on a gallop and continued it for ten miles, when I got engaged with the enemy, directly after crossing the Marmiton, who were strongly posted in a large corn-field and in the edge of the timber skirting the prairie. The Fifth Missouri State Militia dismounted and most gallantly charged, throwing down the fence in the face of a severe fire, while the balance of the brigade charged on horseback. The enemy were completely routed, scattering in disorder, throwing away their arms and leaving many of their killed and wounded. I continued the pursuit through

the prairie for several miles, and finally about 3.30 brought their entire force to bay near Shiloh Creek. Here I was joined by the Fourth Brigade, under Lieutenant Colonel Benteen, and by order of commanding general I formed both brigades into a double line of battle. Price's entire army formed and resolved themselves into a quadruple line, about 800 yards in front, and notwithstanding their line was made four deep, they outflanked me both to the right and to the left. I endeavored to charge and was gallantly supported in the effort by Colonel Benteen, but the utmost exertions of officers and men could not move the horses to a trot or a gallop. I steadily advanced in line at a walk toward the enemy, who continued to retire, gradually massing his flanks upon his center, when their flight became more rapid, and in pursuance of orders from commanding general I bivouacked my command on the battle-field, passing another night without either forage or rations. In the morning moved to a corn-field and fed, receiving orders to march via Lamar. About 10 a. m. I renewed the pursuit of Price, and found his trail well defined with the debris of burning wagons—artillery ammunition scattered along the road for miles, camp equipage, mess kits, plunder, and arms thrown away, all evinced the demoralization consequent upon the vigorous attacks of the preceding day. I secured a large flock of sheep, which I dispatched under guard to the quartermaster at Fort Scott. At his camp over 200 wagons were destroyed by him. At least forty wagons were uninjured, among them several wagons loaded with small-arm ammunition, most emphatically telling the condition the flying rebels were reduced to. I was delayed here several hours, Price having destroyed the ford and obstructed the roads, felling heavy timber across them. Finally cleared the track and pushed on to Shanghai, arriving at 11 p. m., where, in accordance with the orders of the commanding general Cavalry Division, I reported to Major-General Curtis.

The officers and men of the brigade are entitled to the highest praise for their gallantry in attacking the enemy and for the cheerfulness with which they endured the privations and fatigues of this most exhausting campaign. The regimental commanders, each and every one, did their whole duty, and were well supported by their line officers. To my staff—Capt. H. N. Cook, Ninth Missouri State Militia, ordnance officer and inspector; Capt. C. G. Laurant, assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenant Acker, Seventeenth Illinois, aide-de-camp—I am under obligations for their gallant support, and I would particularly mention Lieut. E. G. Manning, Eighty first U. S. Colored Troops, for his assiduous attention to duty, and his conduct in the face of the enemy. To Lieut. J. S. Taylor, Second Missouri Cavalry Volunteers (Merrill's Horse), acting assistant quartermaster, and Lieut. L. Whitney, acting commissary of subsistence, I would here make grateful acknowledgments for the patient and thorough manner in which they each discharged their duties.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JOHN MCNEIL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. CLIFFORD THOMSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SAINT LOUIS, *November 25, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report to you that in accordance with orders received October 26, from Major-General Pleasonton, commander

of Cavalry Division, I reported with the two brigades of that division to Major-General Curtis, at Shanghai, Barton County, Mo., at 11 p. m. October 26, 1864. The next day continued the pursuit of Price's retreating army, arriving at Newtonia 9 p. m. October 28, where General Blunt had succeeded in forcing the enemy to action, which the Second Brigade arrived too late to participate in. Received orders to attack the enemy at daylight. At 4 a. m. October 29 my men were in saddle to move on toward the enemy, when I received orders from general commanding department to move with the brigade to the District of Rolla. Marched for Rolla, via Springfield, and October 30 camped nineteen miles from Springfield, when I received orders from Major-General Curtis to continue anew the pursuit of Price and to report to him at Cassville. My horses requiring shoeing, I went via Springfield and found 1,500 horses in the brigade to be shod; spent two days' and nights' constant work, and on 2d of November left Springfield for Cassville, leaving a part of brigade to continue shoeing, and join me at Cassville. I arrived at Cassville 6th of November, joined by balance of command on the 7th, when, learning that the country before us was entirely destitute of forage, and believing that from the thoroughly jaded condition of my horses that an advance would insure their destruction, without the remotest prospect of ever catching up again with Price, I requested of the commanding general Department of the Missouri instructions, and received authority to return to Rolla. Leaving Cassville I proceeded through the southern tier of counties via Hartville by easy marches, finding forage, and arrived at Rolla November 15, 1864.

The officers and men are entitled to the highest praise, not only for the gallantry with which they were always ready to attack the superior force of the enemy, but for the invariable cheerfulness with which they endured the privations and fatigues of this most exhausting campaign. Where all have behaved equally well it were invidious to make any distinctions. My regimental commanders, each and every one, did their whole duty, and were well supported by their line officers. To my staff—Capt. H. N. Cook, Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, ordnance officer and inspector; Capt. C. G. Laurant, assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenant Acker, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, aide-de-camp—I am under obligations for their gallant support, and I would particularly mention Lieut. E. G. Manning, Eighty-first U. S. Colored Infantry, for his assiduous attention to duty, and his conduct in the face of the enemy. To Lieut. J. S. Taylor, Second Missouri Cavalry, U. S. Volunteers (Merrill's Horse), acting assistant quartermaster, and Lieut. L. Whitney, acting commissary of subsistence, I would here make grateful acknowledgments for the patient and thorough manner in which they each discharged their duties. For the number of horses absolutely destroyed by the extraordinary marching I was compelled to do, and the absence of forage, I would respectfully refer you to the report of Captain Cook, my inspector, already submitted to the chief of cavalry.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JOHN McNEIL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. J. F. BENNETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SAINT LOUIS, *November 26, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of my efforts to secure the safety of Rolla, and following that my march to Jefferson City:

Having learned from my Arkansas scouts, as well as from information from headquarters of the department, that Rolla would probably be one of the objective points of the rebel army under Sterling Price, in his recent invasion of Missouri, I issued General Orders, No. 35, District of Rolla, in which I declared Rolla a military camp. All male citizens of Rolla and adjacent country, including aliens and strangers temporarily present, were organized and placed under proper officers and set to work on the defenses of the place. This work was carried on day and night. On the 30th of October [September] General Sanborn reported to me with between 1,500 and 1,600 mounted men. The same day I dispatched Colonel Beveridge with two battalions of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry as a reconnaissance party to Saint James and Steelville. That night, learning that General Ewing had arrived at Leasburg and was closely beleaguered by the enemy, I sent orders to Colonel Beveridge by special messenger to march immediately to General Ewing's relief. This order was most successfully executed by Colonel Beveridge and resulted in the safety of the toil-worn force that had so far successfully retreated from Pilot Knob and their arrival at Rolla, some 700 men and six pieces of artillery being thus rescued from the very grasp of the enemy. For the details of this movement I would respectfully refer you to the report of Colonel Beveridge, inclosed herewith. By the 3d of October, so assiduously and faithfully had the working parties performed the tasks allotted, for which too much praise cannot be given to Col. Albert Sigel, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, commanding the post; Maj. C. Biehle, First Missouri State Militia Infantry, commanding Fort Wyman, and to Captain Dette, First Missouri State Militia Infantry, commander of Star Fort, that I felt assured of the safety of the post, no matter by what force of the enemy it might be assailed. On the evening of the 3d I became convinced that General Price was pushing for Jefferson City. All communication with Saint Louis being cut off, I was compelled to act in the premises without consultation with headquarters. It also became known to me that one prominent object of the raid on the part of the enemy was the capture of the political capital of the State and the installation of Thomas C. Reynolds as the constitutional Governor of Missouri, and the inauguration of a civil government, that, with the assistance of this rebel army of occupation, would be enabled to arouse the latent spirit of rebellion which still unfortunately existed in the minds of many citizens of Missouri. Determined if in my power to foil this rebel scheme, I marched from Rolla for Jefferson City on the morning of the 4th of October, 1864, taking with me every effective man that a due regard for the safety of Rolla would permit. The force was composed of Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, U. S. Volunteers, Colonel Beveridge commanding; Fifth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Lieutenant-Colonel Eppstein commanding; one section Battery B, Second Missouri Artillery, Captain Sutter commanding; two sections Battery H, Second Missouri Artillery, Captain Montgomery commanding; one section 12-pounder mountain howitzers, Fifth Missouri State Militia, Lieutenant Hillerich.

I had previously directed General Sanborn, then in camp at Cuba, to join me at Vienna and proceed with me to the rescue of Jefferson City. Arrived about dark at Vienna and found General Sanborn. It having

rained all day, and having in addition to my artillery a supply train, heavily loaded, of forty-six mule wagons, I became fearful lest General Price might anticipate me in reaching the fords of the Osage. I ordered the column to commence moving at daylight, giving General Sanborn's brigade the advance, and succeeded in crossing the Osage with artillery and train the same day, nearly twenty-four hours in advance of General Price, making Jefferson City from Rolla in two days, a distance of seventy miles. I reported to General Brown, in command of the Central District, Department of the Missouri, and by his orders moved my brigade on the 6th of October into the works then in active state of preparation for defense of the city, where they cheerfully labored for thirty-six consecutive hours in completing the defenses of the line. Upon the assumption of command by General Fisk I was appointed to the command of the right wing of the defenses of the place, and the following troops assigned me as my brigade: Third Regiment Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Lieutenant-Colonel Matthews; Fifth Regiment Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Lieutenant-Colonel Eppstein; Ninth Regiment Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Lieutenant-Colonel Draper; Seventeenth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, Col. John L. Beveridge; one regiment of infantry (Gasconade County Militia), Colonel Poser; one section of Battery B, Second Missouri Light Artillery; two sections of Battery H, Second Missouri Light Artillery; one section of 12-pounder mountain howitzers. General Sanborn having the strongest position on the south side of the town, I sent him Captain Sutter with his section of Napoleon guns. The enemy having crossed Moreau demonstrated on this position, and this section opened upon the main column of the enemy. For particulars I would refer to the reports of General Sanborn. Toward evening the Fifth Regiment Missouri State Militia, posted on my left wing, had some skirmishing, but elicited nothing of importance; my whole force labored industriously the entire night in strengthening the defenses of the line; and learning from scouts that the rebels were massing their whole force in my front, I had all hands ready for the fight at early dawn, but with the appearance of day came the disappearance of Price's army. During the night a rebel emissary of his from Jefferson City informed him of my arrival the day before with 2,800 men and eight pieces of artillery, whereupon, after consultation with his chief of engineers, General Shelby, and others, it was decided to abandon the attack and immediately move west. This news I obtained early in the morning, it coming from the gentleman at whose house Generals Price and Shelby quartered that night, and who was in the room during the consultation. The enemy no longer threatening an attack, I was ordered to turn over the cavalry force under my command to General Sanborn for service in the field, and subsequently in the day I was ordered back to Rolla, via Saint Louis, by Major-General Pleasonton, commanding troops in the field. I immediately started on horseback, accompanied by an escort of twenty men, and the consciousness that by the promptness of my movements from Rolla, although without orders from headquarters, I had saved the capital of the State from the pollution of rebel occupation, and thwarted the enemy in his fondest scheme of establishing a Confederate government and issuing from the capital an order for the election of a Confederate legislature.

I cannot sufficiently commend the promptness of my officers and men on this expedition and the zealous industry displayed by them in working on the fortifications at Jefferson City. To Brigadier-General Brown, commanding the Central District, and to Captain Case, assistant quar-

termaster, I am under obligations for many acts of kindness and attention to my officers and men. I reached Saint Louis October 12, at midnight, where I received orders to return to the front. I started from Saint Louis the morning of the 14th of October, and reported to Major-General Rosecrans, at Jefferson City, the evening of the 16th of October, and by General Field Orders, No. 1, was assigned to the command of the Second Brigade, Cavalry Division, Major-General Pleasonton commanding. For details of the operations of the Second Brigade I would respectfully refer to my official report made to Major-General Pleasonton, commanding Cavalry Division.*

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN MCNEIL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. J. F. BENNETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 28.

Report of Surg. William H. H. Cundiff, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry, Acting Medical Director.

ROLLA, MO., *December 1, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit in obedience to your request the further subjoined report of the casualties which occurred in the Second Brigade, First Cavalry Division, of troops in the field during the late expedition in this State and Kansas against the rebels, commanded by General Sterling Price, and in so doing I will confine myself to such reports as are in my possession, made to me by the surgeons and assistant surgeons of the respective regiments composing said brigade, having lost all my personal notes which I had made during the campaign for the purpose of enabling me to make a full and complete report of all the casualties occurring in my brigade in different engagements, of Independence (October 22), Big Blue (October 23), and Osage (October 25, 1864). From all the reports, together with my personal knowledge, the following report will approximate if not entirely cover our losses in the above-named battles.†

I would add the remark that all the cases that fell under my personal observation were skillfully and successfully treated by surgeons and assistant surgeons under my charge upon the most approved plan of army surgery. In conclusion, I desire to say that the highest praise is due the surgeons and assistant surgeons of the brigade for their hearty and efficient co-operation in caring for the sick and wounded during the arduous campaign.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. H. CUNDIFF,
Surg., 13th Mo. Cav. Vols. (Vet.), and Acty. Med. Director 2d Brig.

Brigadier-General MCNEIL,
Comdg. Second Brig., First Div. Cav., Troops in the Feld.

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* See p. 371.

† Nominal list (omitted) shows the losses as follows: Independence, Mo., October 22, 1864, 2 men killed, 4 officers and 8 men wounded. Big Blue, Mo., October 23, 1864, 4 men wounded. Osage, Mo., October 25, 1864, 1 man killed, 11 men wounded.

No. 29.

Reports of Col. John L. Beveridge, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH CAVALRY,
Rolla, Mo., October 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 30th ultimo, under orders from headquarters District of Rolla, I marched with two battalions, 15 officers and 450 men, to Saint James. The enemy had not appeared at that point, but was reported at Knob View, six miles beyond. Marching rapidly forward, I found the enemy, reported 150 strong, had burned a few cars, plundered a store, and fled southeast before our approach. This side of Knob View I overtook a drove of beef-cattle, numbering from 75 to 100, moving toward the rebel lines. Taking them to be supplies for the rebel army, I arrested the parties in charge, and sent them and the cattle back to Captain Ferguson, in command at Saint James, with instructions to send all to Rolla. The command marched along the railroad toward Cuba, and just at dark the rear of a column was discovered crossing the track to the left. Thick woods and darkness prevented a vigorous pursuit. They went down Brush Creek to the north, and were probably the same party that committed the depredations at Knob View. The command encamped at Cuba. The enemy, from 200 to 400 in number, had visited Cuba the previous night, burning the station-house and warehouse, tearing up the railroad track, and leaving about midnight. I sent Sergeant Stafford, Company L, and three men to Steelville, who returned at 5 a. m., and reported that no enemy in force had appeared at that point. I could obtain no reliable information of the enemy. The people were much alarmed, and the wildest rumors prevailed. General Ewing was reported retreating with his command from Pilot Knob across the country toward Leasburg, out of ammunition and subsistence, and severely pressed by the enemy. On the morning of the 1st I marched cautiously toward Leasburg, determined to effect a communication with General Ewing or make a demonstration upon the enemy in his favor. Fortunately, no enemy impeded the march, and early in the day the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry reached Leasburg, and was joyously greeted by the forces of General Ewing. Under the direction of General Ewing several scouting parties were sent out, and at night the general retired his force toward Rolla, two squadrons of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, under command of Major Fisher, leading the column, and the other squadrons under my immediate command covering the rear. Captain Baker with his company (F) remained till daylight to destroy all Government stores abandoned. On reaching Saint James the command was relieved from further duty by General Ewing, and was marched to camp at Rolla.

All my officers and men behaved well, and I trust the honor will be given them of having saved from capture by the enemy General Ewing and his command and Col. Thomas C. Fletcher, the next Governor of the State of Missouri.

I have the honor to remain, your obedient servant,

JOHN L. BEVERIDGE,
Colonel Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

Capt. C. G. LAURANT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY,
Rolla, Mo., November 17, 1864.

SIR: In pursuance of instructions from district headquarters I have the honor to submit the following report:

The regiment, two battalions, marched from Rolla October 4, 1864, and arrived at Jefferson City, sixty-five miles, on the morning of the 6th. Before daylight on the morning of the 7th the regiment took its position on the right of the line for the defense of the city, and was here joined by Companies C and D, making total strength 22 officers and 623 enlisted men. Companies C and D were thrown to the front in line of skirmishers and remained in that position till late p. m. of the 8th. The other companies, men and officers, dismounted, worked faithfully and cheerfully for thirty-six hours in fortifying the line of defense, and all seemed to regret the enemy did not appear to test the strength of their works and the valor of their arms. Late p. m. of the 8th the regiment marched out of the city with the other forces in pursuit of the enemy. From the 8th to October 19 I was in command of Second Brigade, U. S. Cavalry force, and the regiment was under the immediate command of Maj. L. C. Matlack. During this time it performed its share of field duty, marching, picketing, and scouting. Major Matlack with the regiment made a reconnaissance from Cook's Store toward Lexington, and Major Fisher with 500 men from Higgins' Store to Marshall. October 19 Brig. Gen. John McNeil assumed command of the brigade at Kirkpatrick's Mill. The regiment marched with the other forces to Lexington and westward to Independence, and at the engagement near Independence was dismounted and took its position upon the left of the line, on the left of the Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry Regiment, the men falling promptly into line and moving rapidly forward for two miles across fields and through woods. October 23, marched from Independence at midnight on the Little Santa Fé road to the Little Blue, and while the enemy was passing to the southward on the opposite side of the creek, the regiment deflecting to the right, was moved upon the enemy's flank. The route was through thick brush, and the bottom of the Little Blue from 50 to 100 feet below the surface, with banks steep and rocky. Companies L and M, under command of Captain Austin, in line of skirmishers, moved through the brush across the creek, and, undiscovered, up to the very flank of the enemy, awaiting the support of the column before attacking. The head of the column had reached the bottom of the Blue when ordered to retire.

On the 25th, after the battle of Mine Creek, when the brigade was ordered to the front, the regiment occupying the center of the column in the order of march, where the ground would permit by doubling up the column, was ever at the front, and made one gallant charge upon the enemy with sabers drawn, in column of squadrons. The enemy did not wait to receive the charge and no damage was done to either party. In the line of battle, upon the large prairie near Fort Scott, the regiment was upon the extreme left, and was moved in advance and to the left of the line in order to strike the advance line of the enemy upon the right flank, and was on the point of charging the enemy when ordered to connect with left of line, and when late in the day the whole line was ordered forward the regiment moved rapidly forward in advance of the entire brigade, occupying the position where the brigade encamped for the night. The regiment followed, with the brigade, in pursuit of the enemy to Newtonia and Cassville, and returned thence

to camp at Rolla, arriving here November 15, being out forty-three days, and marching from 1,000 to 1,200 miles, much of the time on short rations, and frequently with no forage.

Officers and men endured this long and arduous campaign without a complaint, regretting most the great loss of horses and the material of war.

Number of men in command at Jefferson City, 623. Number wounded and sent to hospital, 2; number sent to hospital sick, 23; number sent from Springfield to Rolla dismounted, 254; number returned mounted, 190; number dismounted on march, 154; total 623. Some of the men sent from Springfield to Rolla were dismounted, and marched on foot from thirty to forty miles into Springfield. Of the 154 men dismounted on the march, a number of them have come in, others stopped at Kansas City and Fort Scott, and I am advised many of them were furloughed and went home to vote. Number of horses abandoned and lost on the march, 227; number of horses turned over at Springfield and other points, 216; number of horses on hand, unserviceable, 103; number of horses on hand serviceable, 87. Most of the horses were lost and made unserviceable on the march from Little Blue to Springfield, and caused by hard marching and short forage. Number of sets horse equipments lost on the march, 223; number of carbines, &c., lost on the march, 107; number of muskets, &c., lost on the march, 162; number of sabers, &c., lost on the march, 209. The horse equipments were lost by the horses giving out on the march, and it was impossible for the men to carry them. A part of the arms were those of the sick and wounded sent back to the hospital, and were lost on the route, by reason insufficient transportation, and for these neither company commanders nor the men should be held responsible, and a part of the arms were abandoned by the dismounted men, and I have ordered the company commanders to charge all such losses to the men, and have the same stopped against their pay.

I have the honor to remain, your obedient servant,

JOHN L. BEVERIDGE,
Colonel Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

Capt. C. G. LAURANT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 30.

*Report of Detachment Second Missouri Cavalry.**

HEADQUARTERS MERRILL'S HORSE,
Camp near Rolla, Mo., November 16, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with General Orders, No. 7, headquarters Second Brigade, Rolla, Mo., November 15, 1864, I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of a detachment of the regiment of Merrill's Horse during the last campaign in Missouri:

The detachment, consisting of about 225 veterans (just returned from veteran furlough) and 300 recruits that had never been drilled mounted, and but fifteen or twenty times dismounted, was ordered to be ready to take the field at an hour's notice. Left Benton Barracks, Mo., on the 28th of September, 1864, with orders to picket the Meramec, near Kirkwood, Mo.; remained there until October 1, 1864. The detachment was then ordered to Franklin, on the Pacific Railroad, where it joined

* The original on file is without the signature of the writer. Capt. George M. Houston appears to have been the commander of the detachment.

Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith's command, and remained until October 7. Then marched to within two miles of Union, Mo. October 8, marched twenty-eight miles to Boeuf Creek. October 9, received orders from General Smith to detail a squadron to report to him, and to march with the balance of the command to Jefferson City, Mo., as an escort to his Excellency Governor Hall. Arrived at Jefferson City October 11, 1864, and reported as per General Smith's order to Colonel Catherwood, commanding brigade. October 12, marched forty miles through California to Pisgah, Mo. At this place (California) Lieut. D. O'Crane, Company C, Merrill's Horse, with 100 men of same regiment, was ordered by Colonel Catherwood "to march to La Mine Bridge, by forced march, and guard and hold the bridge, if possible, until further orders; move at the greatest possible speed." Lieutenant O'Crane, finding the bridge burnt, returned to his command. October 13, marched twenty miles. October 14, marched forty-five miles through Georgetown toward Lexington. October 15, marched fifteen miles. October 16, marched toward Dover and back again, eight miles. October 17, marched toward Georgetown. October 18, in camp. October 19, General John McNeil took command of the brigade, marched ten miles, and encamped. In the evening of October 20 received orders to move on toward Lexington, Mo., enter and hold the town, if possible. When the detachment arrived within one mile and a half of town I ordered Lieutenant Meager, Company A, Merrill's Horse, to proceed with his company to Lexington and ascertain whether or not Price's forces had evacuated the town as reported. Lieutenant Meager entered Lexington about 9 p. m.; found some 200 or 300 of Price's stragglers in town; he captured two officers (stragglers). In the darkness of the night Lieutenant Meager could not distinguish friend from foe, so he quietly retired and joined his command. After waiting an hour for the support (Fifth Missouri State Militia) promised by General McNeil, it failed to report, so the detachment moved back toward the main command. October 21, marched twenty miles toward Independence. October 22, marched thirty-five miles and participated in the fight at Independence. October 24, marched twenty-four miles. October 25, marched forty miles and participated in two charges, capturing some 8 or 10 prisoners, and in which some 5 or 6 of our men were wounded. October 26, marched thirty-five miles. October 27, marched forty miles. October 28, marched from Carthage to Newtonia, forty miles. October 29, marched from Newtonia toward Springfield, twenty miles. October 30, marched twenty-three miles to Turn Back Creek. October 31, marched to Springfield, twenty miles. November 1 and 2, in camp at Springfield, having horses shod. November 3, marched twenty-six miles toward Cassville, Mo. Arrived at Cassville November 6, twenty-nine miles. November 7, in camp all day. November 8, marched toward Rolla, arriving at Rolla, Mo., November 15, 1864.

No. 31.

Report of Lieut. Col. Joseph A. Eppstein, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIFTH REGT. MISSOURI STATE MILITIA CAV.,
Camp Davies, Rolla, Mo., November 18, 1864.

GENERAL: In accordance with General Orders, No. 7, headquarters Second Brigade, Rolla, Mo., November 15, 1864. I have the honor to

make the following report of the operations and participations of my command during the late campaign in Missouri:

September 30 I received orders to proceed to Lake Springs, twelve miles east of this place, with all available men of my command, as a corps of observation. I picketed all the principal roads leading to Rolla from north to southwest; had a slight encounter on the following night with a small party of Shelby's flankers, in which the enemy left three dead on the ground; no casualties on our side. I was recalled from this position with my command on the evening of the 3d of October, 1864, and reached Rolla at 3 a. m. on the 4th, from which place we started at 10 a. m. the same day for Jefferson City. After our arrival at Jefferson City I was assigned, with my command, the position of the left wing of the Second Brigade, being the southwest corner of the line of defense of said place, and commenced to repair immediately an old fort found at that position; at the same time employed my men in throwing up breast-works and rifle-pits. The enemy approached our lines about noon on the 7th of October, and was kept at a respectable distance by the shells thrown amongst them from Captain Sutter's battery. I anticipated the concentration and the attack of the western line, which was the one assigned for the defense of our brigade, and therefore sent out two squadrons to reconnoiter the position and intentions of the enemy; found him about five miles southwest from our line, encamped on said night. Not seeing any signs of approach on the morning of the 8th, I sent out skirmishers to feel the enemy, who became slightly engaged with their rear guard, and found that their main force had started west. I then received orders to report to Brigadier-General Sanborn with my command, who was assigned to the cavalry forces, to pursue, annoy, and delay the march of the enemy. Left Jefferson City on the 8th with a detachment of my regiment, 445 men in aggregate. Met next morning with the rear of Price's army near Stringtown, on the Versailles road, about fifteen miles southwest of Jefferson City, from where we commenced to skirmish to California, in Moniteau County, Mo., from which place they were driven by the forces under General Sanborn.

Left California on the 10th for Boonville, Mo., by way of Tipton; encamped at about eleven miles south of Boonville; reconnoitered on the 11th near and around said town. Received orders on the evening of the 11th to proceed with my command to Boonville on the West Tipton road, if possible. Started at 4 a. m. on the 12th; crossed Shoemaker's Bridge about 5 a. m., where I encountered the rebel advance, about 300 strong. Major Kaiser, whom I had placed in command of my advance, consisting of Squadrons A and B, dismounted the same, forming a skirmish line on each side of the road and drove them back for about one mile, when they fell on their second position, which was occupied by about 800 or 900 men and very formidable, consisting of barns, stables, and rail breast-works on a very commanding ridge. Here I ordered Squadrons C and D to his assistance, but his line was still too weak for the forces that he had to contend with. Squadron A, on his right, came near being taken prisoner—if it had not been for the bold advance of his left wing and swinging around the rebel right, which made them fall back and give up their position. About the same time I brought two mountain howitzers with about 200 men reserve, which brought them out of the notion of regaining their ground; we then drove them one mile farther to a third position, where I found their forces to outnumber mine ten to one, with two pieces of artillery. There I did not deem it prudent to advance farther unless

my rear would be covered by re-enforcements. I reported my condition to the brigade commander, Colonel Beveridge, who ordered me to withdraw my command and join the division, then on the march to California, which was done in good order, whilst the enemy was throwing shells at us. Casualties on this occasion in my command were 2 killed, 1 mortally wounded, and 3 slightly wounded. The enemy must have been seriously damaged from appearances; the extent I am not able to state. On hearing the next day that the enemy was making for Lexington city, we followed him in that direction by way of Georgetown; reached Cook's Store October 15; we remained there till 5 p. m. on the 16th, when I was ordered to make a reconnaissance to Brownsville, Saline County, about twelve miles distant, with 400 men from my regiment and 100 men of the Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, under command of Major Leonard. When I arrived within two miles of said place, at 9 p. m., I was informed by farmers that Price's army was in camp near Brownsville. I had seen camp-fires five or six miles distant. I proceeded to Brownsville, where I learned that Shelby's brigade, under command of Jeff. Thompson, had passed through Brownsville about half an hour before my arrival; that he was encamped at about five miles west of Brownsville, with two pieces of artillery and a large drove of stock, consisting of mules and cattle; that Price's main force was about six miles east of Brownsville, encamped. Not having any orders to proceed farther than Brownsville, I returned and encamped at Cook's Store, where I reported the result of my reconnaissance.

On the 17th the division marched back to Blackwater, where we drew three days' rations and started next day to Milford's Mill. Here we joined with our old and esteemed brigade commander, General McNeil. Left Milford's about 3 a. m. on the 18th. Arrived at Lexington the same night at 12 o'clock just as the rear of Shelby's brigade cleared the town, with some of whom we exchanged a few shots, but with what effect I could not ascertain, owing to the darkness of the night; seven were taken prisoners. Left Lexington on the 21st at 12 a. m.; camp at Sni Bottom; reached Big Blue about 10 a. m. 22d of October, where we met the enemy's rear guard and commenced skirmishing. The enemy fell back to within gun-range from town, where he took a bold stand. The section of howitzers from my command, under the command of Lieut. A. Hillerich, with Squadrons L and M as support, were sent to the front to open fire on the enemy, which was done effectually. The balance of my command acted as skirmishers on foot for about five miles and supported the charging column. Before them the enemy dispersed in all directions, leaving their guns in our possession. Casualties in my command: 1 killed, 1 severely wounded, since died. From there I moved with Second Brigade southwest to intercept the retreating foe. Commenced to skirmish with their flankers early next morning and engaged the main column about 10 a. m., seven miles southeast of Westport; found them too strong for our brigade to overcome; were ordered to withdraw.

On the 24th of October Second Brigade received orders to join the main column; was done and moved forward in pursuit of the enemy; caught up with them at Marais des Cygnes some time after midnight, where our advance opened fire on them at daybreak; we pursued them, crossed the river, and engaged them in battle about ten miles from the river. After the First Brigade's successful operations the Second Brigade was ordered to advance and take up the pursuit of the defeated enemy at a gallop; caught up with him about 2 p. m., where they had

taken position at a very eminent point in a large corn-field. Here my command was ordered to dismount and charge the field while the balance of the brigade charged mounted around the right wing. The charge was promptly and boldly executed by the whole brigade, dispersing the enemy in all directions, leaving a large number of dead and wounded behind. About 4 p. m. we caught up with the enemy again near Fort Scott, where he had made a stand, forming his whole force in line of battle; our forces also formed as fast as they came up and were steadily advancing on them, sending volleys from small-arms into their ranks from our right and our left, making them shiver and fall back. Owing to the over-exertion of our horses on this day we were unable to execute any quick cavalry movement or charge, which enabled the enemy to make his escape under the cover of the darkness of night and the smoke of prairie fire. After giving our horses one night and a half day's rest we renewed the pursuit of the retreating enemy in the direction of Newtonia, which place we reached the same day. After General Blunt's last engagement with the enemy in Missouri we left Newtonia for Springfield about noon on the 29th. Arrived at the latter place at 3 p. m., where I mustered my command, it being muster day, and found it in a deplorable condition; scarcely one-tenth of the horses were found serviceable owing to the forced marches and irregular supplies of forage and water. After turning over the unserviceable horses and sending the foot men back to Rolla, I left the camp near Springfield on the morning of the 3d of November; 217 men aggregate. Reached Cassville on the evening of the 6th, where we remained up to the 8th of November, when the brigade started back to Rolla, Mo., by way of Ozark and Hartville. Whilst crossing the headwaters of the Roubidoux, the advance of the brigade captured some bushwhackers, who informed General McNeil that a certain rebel of the name of King was in the neighborhood and leading a band of bushwhackers, upon which information the general directed me with my command to scout through the country and clear it of such troublesome characters whenever I came across them. Upon which direction I divided my command in three detachments—one detachment, under the command of Major Kaiser, down Big Piney; one detachment, under command of Captain Charveaux, to Rolla by way of Licking, and I came with the third detachment by way of Spring Creek. Captain Charveaux and myself did not meet with any bushwhackers, but Major Kaiser met with a small band near McCourtney's Mill and engaged them, wounding 2 of them and captured 3 of their horses.

The command reached Rolla on the 15th of November after a tedious and wearisome campaign of forty-eight days.

In conclusion I must here state that with a few exceptions the officers and enlisted men under my command deserve credit for their noble conduct during the late campaign.

This report may not be as accurate and complete as it might be if I had had the facilities of making notes and little more time to complete it. In submitting it to your kind consideration I hope it will meet your approval.

General, I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. EPPSTEIN,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. JOHN MCNEIL,
Commanding District of Rolla.

No. 32.

Report of Col. Edwin C. Catherwood, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH MISSOURI CAVALRY,
Rolla, Mo., December 2, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following list* of killed, wounded, and missing of the Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry in the late campaign in Missouri against the rebel army, commanded by General Price, viz:

At the battle of Independence—Officers wounded, 4; enlisted men wounded, 7. At the battle of Osage River—Enlisted men killed, 3;† wounded, 11;† missing, 1. In the battle of Glasgow—Wounded, 1. Full report of killed and wounded in this action not received.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. C. CATHERWOOD,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. FRANK ENO,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 33.

Reports of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri and Third Brigade, Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI,
Springfield, Mo., November 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, the part taken by my command in the recent campaign in Missouri against the rebel army, commanded by Major-General Price, while reporting to Major-General Pleasonton:

Under paragraph 5 of Special Orders, No. 1, dated headquarters U. S. forces, Jefferson City, Mo., October 8, 1864, I immediately proceeded with all the available cavalry force of the command and one battery of light artillery in the direction of the enemy. This command consisted of the following regiments and detachments, viz: First, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Regiments Missouri State Militia Cavalry, Sixth and Seventh Provisional Regiments Enrolled Missouri Militia, Second Arkansas Cavalry, First Iowa Cavalry, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, with Battery H, Second Missouri Light Artillery, to which was added one section of Battery L, Second Missouri Light Artillery, the whole under command of Captain Thurber, of Battery H, numbering in effective force pressed for duty about 4,100 men. This force was at once organized into brigades as follows: First Brigade, consisting of the First, Fourth, and Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry and the First Iowa Cavalry, under command of Col. John F. Philips, of the Seventh Missouri State Militia; Second Brigade, consisting of the Third, Fifth, and Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry and the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, with a battery of mountain howitzers, under command of Colonel Beveridge, of the Seventeenth Illinois Cav-

* Nominal list omitted.

† Two of these belonged to the other regiments temporarily attached to Thirteenth Missouri.

alry; Third Brigade, consisting of detachments of the Sixth and Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, Sixth and Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, and the Second Arkansas Cavalry, under command of Col. J. J. Gravely, of the Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry. The artillery (six guns), Captain Thurber commanding, was attached to the division generally to act under my orders. The First Brigade, Colonel Philips commanding, already in motion, was ordered to continue its march on the Jefferson City and Springfield road toward Versailles and Warsaw, and the Second and Third Brigades were ordered forward along the line of the railroad toward California and Tipton. Before I left Jefferson City artillery firing was heard in the direction of the Springfield road, and soon after I received a dispatch from Colonel Philips informing me that the enemy had made a stand at the crossing of the Moreau, occupying a very strong position, and that artillery was needed to enable him to carry this position without serious loss. The Second Arkansas Cavalry had already been sent to his support, and I immediately ordered the rest of the Third Brigade, Colonel Gravely commanding, with one section of Thurber's battery, to turn off from the California road, and move forward to the support of Colonel Philips. The enemy retired from the Moreau before the arrival of Colonel Gravely, with some loss in killed and wounded, leaving about seventy horses abandoned on the field. No loss was sustained by my command. The First and Third Brigades and one section of artillery bivouacked on and near the Moreau that night, and the Second Brigade, with three sections of artillery, at Gray's Creek, about ten miles from Jefferson City, on the California road.

At daylight on the 9th the entire force of the enemy moved forward rapidly on the Springfield road toward Versailles from its place of bivouac east of Russellville, the Third Brigade moving in pursuit. The Second Brigade moved across by a neighborhood road from the California road to the Springfield road and advanced to the support of the Third Brigade, already engaged with the enemy's rear guard. The enemy resisted the advance of the column strongly with a heavy line of dismounted skirmishers and strong reserves while passing through the heavily timbered country east of Russellville. The entire Third Brigade was immediately formed in line, with a line of dismounted men as skirmishers in front, and the other brigades moved forward in support. The enemy, on account of the timber and formation of the ground, was able to resist the advance of our skirmishers to such an extent that it was deemed proper to charge with a mounted force through the enemy's line of skirmishers and attack his reserves. This was accomplished by a detachment of the Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, under Lieut. R. B. Riggs, Company K, Sixth Missouri State Militia, and the enemy retreated rapidly through Russellville, leaving several dead on the field. My loss in this affair was Lieut. R. B. Riggs killed and — wounded. Lieutenant Riggs was a most gallant officer, and fell within five yards of the enemy's reserves, which he was charging so vigorously. The Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, deployed as skirmishers, and the Sixth and Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, which were also engaged, behaved most gallantly. This cleared the road to the open prairie, on which the enemy's columns and trains were plainly visible within artillery range. When my advance emerged from the woods artillery was immediately opened upon the flying columns, which continued to move forward toward Versailles until it had passed every road turning to the right toward California but one, viz, the road at High Point. This movement of the enemy

induced me to move by the shortest route and by a rapid march to California for the purpose of striking his flank if he should turn north toward Boonville at High Point, and also for the purpose of moving rapidly on his flank during the night toward Warsaw, with a view of reaching that point before him, if he continued his march in that direction. The First Brigade, with one section of artillery, led in this march and the Second and Third Brigades followed, with another section of artillery with the rear brigade. The head of the column emerged from the timber upon the open prairie near California about 5 p. m., and found a large force of the enemy in that town, a portion engaged in tearing up the railroad and a large force in line of battle. The enemy opened with one section of artillery upon my advance immediately. The First Brigade was at once formed in close column of squadrons in rear of the crest of a ridge running east and west, about half a mile south of the town, and dismounted and formed line in rear of this crest, the right extending northeast of the California and Russellville road, on which my command was marching, and the left extending in a southwesterly direction across this road toward the road leading from California to High Point. The section of artillery with the First Brigade, under Captain Thurber, went into position on the left of the road about 700 yards from the enemy's guns and opened a well-directed fire. Three squadrons of the First Iowa Cavalry, mounted, were ordered to our extreme left on the road leading from California to High Point, as a party of observation. The Second and Third Brigades were still in reserve with the exception of two regiments. The line was ordered to advance and moved forward with the utmost alacrity. The enemy soon ceased his fire and as the left of our line entered the town he fled with great precipitancy, leaving five dead on the field. Our loss was one man wounded in the First Brigade. It was now dark. Shelby's division moved to and occupied Boonville during the night. The main body of the enemy bivouacked on the Moniteau and moved out on the Boonville road at daylight. My command started at daylight also, and moved through Tipton, bivouacking for the night within nine miles of Boonville, on the Tipton and Boonville road. During the evening Fagan's division was reported moving into Boonville. Early in the morning of the 11th the Sixth Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia was sent across to the Boonville, Pisgah, and California road, with orders to Lieutenant-Colonel McMahan, commanding, to advance up that road as far as possible. The balance of the Third Brigade was ordered forward on the Tipton and Boonville road. At the same time Colonel Eppstein, of the Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, was ordered to proceed west to the Boonville and Georgetown road, and advance up that road, driving in the enemy's pickets and ascertaining whether the enemy had moved west or not. The Second Arkansas Cavalry, which had the advance of the Third Brigade, on the Tipton road, encountered the enemy's pickets about three miles south of Boonville, and drove them in in the most spirited manner. The enemy deployed a line of skirmishers about two miles in length. The Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia came up on the Pisgah road without opposition and joined the Second Arkansas Cavalry, and the enemy's skirmish line, though repeatedly re-enforced, was driven back to his main line. Lieutenant Gideon, Company H, Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, with one company advanced into the outskirts of the town and entered, and for a short time occupied two or three houses for protection to his men. The enemy opened artillery upon these houses and the line, and his main line

opened fire. I ordered the line to retire, the enemy advancing but a short distance as it withdrew. The line was ordered to advance again, and moved forward to within short musket-range of the enemy's main line. A dispatch from Colonel Eppstein, on the Georgetown road, announced that no portion of the rebel army had moved west, and I withdrew my lines to the south side of the Petit Saline. In the affair of this day my loss was 1 man killed and — wounded. The enemy's loss is known to have been 15 killed, and 28 so severely wounded that they could not be moved, and a large number were wounded and taken along with the army. Several officers, one a colonel, were reported among the rebel wounded. My command had been out of rations for thirty-six hours, the men had become much exhausted, and I could not learn of any train on the way to me. I determined to move toward California in the morning, until I should meet a subsistence train, and return immediately upon procuring supplies. Four days' rations were procured and issued at California, and the command moved back to its position in front of Boonville by 10 o'clock on the morning of the 13th of October. Colonel Catherwood's brigade of veteran troops, 1,500 strong, reported to me at California and held the advance in this day's march. A reconnaissance made by a detachment of the Seventh Kansas Cavalry, under Captain Turley, developed the fact that the enemy had left Boonville on the morning of the 13th and moved westerly, crossing the La Mine River at Dug Ford and Scott's Ford. My apprehension was that the enemy would move by rapid marches to Lexington and into Kansas, and thereby prevent the organization and concentration of the troops of that department on the border against him, and at the same time place so great a distance between his army and the infantry and cavalry of this department, then moving to the front in support of my command, that it would be impossible for them to join me if I should follow him, and thereby avoid a battle with the large number of troops then being marshaled for that purpose or with any command larger than my own. Hence all my movements after the enemy left Boonville were made with the view of holding the enemy in or near Saline County until the Kansas troops were organized and on the border, and Winslow's brigade of cavalry and General A. J. Smith's command of infantry and artillery should be within striking distance. I therefore moved my command, with the exception of a small force under Captain Turley, which was ordered to follow the enemy's trail by Nebo Church, through Georgetown up the Georgetown and Lexington road to Cook's Store, arriving at this point at 3 p. m. on the 15th day of October, with the view of resisting the advance of the enemy, and attacking his flanks if he should advance immediately.

After the first day's march from Boonville the enemy moved slowly, portions of his command halting a short time near Marshall, Arrow Rock, and Waverly. Detachments from my command reconnoitered the position and movements of the enemy daily. On the 17th day of October some movements were reported that indicated a design on the part of the enemy to move southeast through Marshall, and his advance not having appeared at Dover I moved south to the Blackwater to be in a better position to strike the enemy if he should move in that direction. Subsistence supplies had also been exhausted for two days, and it was absolutely necessary to get a train from Sedalia. Immediately upon my command moving south to the Blackwater the enemy commenced moving west rapidly. Subsistence was obtained and issued on the 19th day of October, and on this day I received the first dispatch from Gen-

eral Blunt, giving the force and position of the troops from Kansas and indicating a state of readiness on the part of General Curtis and himself. On the same day I received information from your headquarters of the arrival of Winslow's brigade of cavalry and General Smith's corps at Sedalia, and your order reorganizing the cavalry and taking immediate command. I sent a dispatch to Major-General Blunt immediately upon receiving his dispatch informing him of the position of the enemy and of all our forces and intended movements, and having on this day, by order of the general commanding, moved the First Brigade to Boonville and the Second Brigade to Kirkpatrick's Mill, I moved with the Third Brigade to Cook's Store and halted. At 3 p. m. I received a dispatch from Major-General Blunt, then in Lexington, and sent one immediately in return. I ordered Col. John E. Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry, to move forward on the Dover road at midnight till he should strike the main body of the enemy or reach the Missouri River. At 3 a. m. a dispatch from him announced that the rebel army had been moving through Dover west during the afternoon and evening of the 19th, and that cannonading was heard late in the evening in the direction of Lexington, adding that he would move forward and attack the force remaining in Dover. This information was immediately communicated to the general commanding, and the entire [force] at once commenced advancing. I sent dispatches to General Blunt on the evening of the 19th and again on the morning of the 20th. None of these dispatches reached him, and I consider it the most unfortunate thing of the campaign that he did not know our position and plans at this time. A determined stand by the forces in the enemy's front at Lexington, Little Blue, or Independence, which would have been made, of course, if the commanding officers had been fully advised of our position and intended movements, would have brought all our forces, including the infantry, into action, and the entire destruction of the enemy would seem to have been made certain.

On this day, General Pleasonton coming up in person, I assumed command of my brigade and moved forward in support of General McNeil's brigade, which held the advance. On the following day, 21st, I moved in the same order to Independence, where the leading brigade became quite heavily engaged with the enemy. Pursuant to orders from the general commanding I moved my brigade to the right of the Second Brigade under a severe artillery fire, dismounted the men, formed in two lines, and advanced rapidly on the left of the enemy's position. Colonel Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry, held the advance and moved forward through gardens, yards, and streets so rapidly that he captured a staff officer of General Cabell's and the general's sword, and their whole line commenced giving way. A charge by the Thirteenth Missouri Veteran Cavalry, simultaneously made, carried everything, and the enemy was routed, losing his artillery and many prisoners. The enemy reformed on the west bank of Stony Creek, and I moved by a circuitous route on our right with a view of turning this position. But before I reached the desired position the gallant fighting of Winslow's brigade had forced the enemy back, and he was at this time, though long after dark, fighting heavily and driving the enemy rapidly toward the Big Blue. At 5 o'clock on the following morning I moved forward to the support of the First Brigade, holding the advance. This brigade commenced advancing at 7 o'clock and in a short time was hotly engaged with the enemy at the Big Blue, advancing and driving the enemy in the most gallant manner. Soon after my command reached the front line the Second Arkansas Cavalry was dismounted and

ordered to advance against the enemy's right. The regiment moved forward and the enemy fell back, whereupon, pursuant to an order from the general commanding, I charged with the rest of my brigade in line and drove the enemy back to the Harrisonville road, a distance of some three miles. The lines were now reformed and soon the order came to charge again. In this instance the order was given directly to regimental commanders in two or three cases, and the points at which the several regiments were to strike the enemy's line were not designated. The result was that, although the troops charged with the greatest gallantry and carried the enemy's position, the charge was made so far to our right that the enemy was allowed to escape with his artillery on the Harrisonville road. My line immediately preceding the charge had been a little confused by one of our own batteries opening upon it from the rear, and hence was not in as good a position as it was a few moments before. As it was, the enemy burned a large number of wagons and abandoned a large amount of artillery, ammunition, and other property. The Second Arkansas Cavalry pursued the enemy across the creek south, killing 8 of them in a skirmish at the creek. My command moved forward this night to Little Santa Fé, and the following day, the 24th, it moved to the immediate vicinity of the Marais des Cygnes, a distance of sixty miles, passing the commands of Generals Curtis and Blunt, and taking the advance on the road twelve miles south of this point, followed by the First, Second, and Fourth Brigades, all having been placed by General Pleasonton under my direction for the night. My advance reached this point a little after midnight and immediately commenced skirmishing with the enemy. The road leading to the Trading Post, on the Marais des Cygnes, passes through a gap between two high mounds about half a mile from the river, each from one-half to a mile in length. Col. J. J. Gravely, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia with his own regiment and the Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Maj. William Plumb commanding, was ordered to advance until the position of the enemy should be fully developed. The night was dark and it was raining heavily. Colonel Gravely advanced gallantly with his command and the enemy opened musketry fire from the gap. The line was deployed as skirmishers and advanced toward the base of the mounds. The enemy opened a line of fire from the foot, sides, and summits of the mounds and the intervening gap, and in an instant the clamor and noise of many voices indicated that we were near the position of the enemy.

My ignorance of the topography of the country, the impenetrable darkness and incessant rain, induced me to postpone a general attack until 4 o'clock in the morning. Previous to this hour Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen, commanding Fourth Brigade, had by my order sent one regiment of his brigade along a road leading west to a ford about three miles above the Trading Post and the place where the enemy was camped, and had sent forward the Fourth Iowa Cavalry to report to Colonel Gravely and assist him in taking possession of the two mounds. Colonel Gravely was ordered to advance and occupy the summits of the two mounds and the intervening gap without delay, and Captains Thurber and Montgomery were ordered to open fire with all their guns at 16 degrees elevation, bearing across the right end of the mound on our left through the gap, the mounds and gap being now just visible through the receding darkness. The Fourth Iowa Cavalry gained the mound on our right without serious opposition, but Colonel Gravely met with strong resistance in his advance toward the crest of the mound on our left. The enemy's line extended the entire length of this mound, and

as our line advanced it opened a rapid but ill-directed fire. The line formed by the Sixth and Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, almost crawling upon the ground by reason of the abrupt assent, moved steadily forward until within a few yards of the enemy, when a loud cheer from our line, followed by one or two sharp volleys of musketry, proclaimed the position gained. Captains Thurber and Montgomery had kept up a steady fire from their batteries during this advance, and, as was afterward ascertained, many of their shell exploded in the enemy's camp, creating the greatest excitement and confusion. General Pleasonton was now upon the ground and ordered me to advance my line to the Marais des Cygnes and cross the river as soon as possible. This order was immediately executed, and in a few moments my command occupied the ground just abandoned by the enemy, who left one piece of artillery and many wagons, horses, mules, cattle, sheep, cooking utensils, &c. Colonel Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry, was directed to take the advance and move forward as rapidly as possible. He soon reached the river and found the enemy busily engaged felling trees across the road on the opposite side. The Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia was at once dismounted and thrown across the river, about 400 yards above the ford, and ordered to advance as skirmishes down the river till it should reach the ford. Colonel Phelps at the same time advanced, under a heavy musketry fire, and the enemy was driven from his position opposite the ford, where he had felled but two trees of moderate size across the road. The Second Arkansas Cavalry continued to advance, followed by the Sixth and Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, which were already nearly exhausted from their labors during the night. The other two regiments of my brigade were still deployed as skirmishers. Upon reaching the open prairie, about half a mile from the ford, the enemy displayed a long line of battle, supported by one section of artillery. I ordered Colonel Phelps not to charge this line until other troops came up, unless he was certain that he could break it and capture the artillery, and proceeded to the ford to hurry up some artillery and other troops. The enemy had already opened his artillery and General Pleasonton was at the ford, throwing forward troops and artillery as rapidly as possible. Colonel Phelps, with his regiment, aided by the Sixth and Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, dismounted, had already charged the enemy's position and had forced them to yield. A section of artillery now came up and was immediately placed in position on our left within good range of the enemy's guns and opened fire rapidly. Colonel Phelps came forward with his entire brigade upon the gallop, and advanced upon the enemy's left, and Colonel Benteen brought his brigade upon the field with similar spirit, although two of his regiments had been on duty nearly the entire night, and advanced against the enemy's center. The Third Brigade bearing strongly to the left at this time, the enemy gave way immediately, followed rapidly by Philips' and Benteen's brigades, and fled with such precipitancy that it seemed improbable that he would form again soon. My brigade having been on duty all night and engaged all the morning without anything for horses or men to eat, by permission of the general commanding I fell to the rear to feed for a few moments. Hardly were the horses unbridled when musketry firing was again heard beyond a ridge to the front, which was soon followed by artillery. "To horse!" was immediately sounded, and the brigade moved off on a gallop to the scene of conflict. Before it could reach the spot, however, the impetuosity and gallantry of the First and Fourth Brigades had broken the enemy's line, captured his artillery, and put him

to complete rout. I moved forward rapidly and took the advance again about three miles from the battle-field, and moved forward in line at a walk until near the Little Osage, where the enemy had reformed under cover of thick timber and brush, at which point I received an order from the general commanding to charge their position and move through the timber to the open prairie beyond and there halt and reform. The brigade charged the enemy concealed in the timber in the most gallant manner; drove him across the Little Osage and through the timber, where we halted and reformed the line. Three full lines of the enemy were visible within rifle-range, and the command became so eager for the fray that it seemed impossible to restrain them, and the entire brigade charged the enemy again, without any orders, and drove him fully four miles, killing and wounding many, capturing a number of prisoners, and compelling the enemy to burn a large number of wagons and other property; nor would the brigade have halted here, but the powers of nature both of men and horses had failed, and not even the excitement of battle could keep them up longer. The Second Brigade moved on in pursuit, and after an hour's rest my command moved forward, but could not again reach the enemy that day, and moved to Fort Scott for subsistence, and there rested for one day. On the morning of the 27th I left Fort Scott with my command and one section of Montgomery's battery, under Lieutenant Smiley, with the hope of striking the enemy one more blow in the vicinity of Newtonia or Neosho, as it was probable that he would make a short stay there to obtain supplies before entering the desert region of Northern Arkansas. I marched sixty-two miles that day, keeping the artillery and teams along, and reached Newtonia on the 28th about 4 p. m., having marched 104 miles with artillery and a train in thirty-six hours. I found General Blunt heavily engaged with the enemy, his line slowly receding, and the enemy's line extending much beyond his on both flanks, advancing rapidly upon the right and left. General Blunt directed me to form upon his left, and if possible to turn the enemy's right. The horses being exhausted and the fields intersected with stone walls and other obstacles, I was induced to dismount my command and the regiments were ordered to advance as fast as they could dismount and form. The Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia was the first to meet the advancing force of the enemy. This regiment advanced most gallantly, and had fired two or three volleys in rapid succession, when a triumphant cheer from the line announced that the enemy had turned and was falling back. All the regiments of the brigade behaved with equal promptness and vigor, and the enemy was driven back some three miles, when darkness, the flight of the enemy, and the exhaustion of our troops closed the battle and the pursuit. During the night I received the orders of the general commanding to proceed with my command to Springfield and assume command of my district, and on the following morning I moved in compliance with said order.

In a campaign of greater hardships and privations for its duration than any in which I have ever taken part, the troops of my entire command conducted themselves in the most uncomplaining, energetic, and gallant manner. I neither saw nor heard of a single straggler during the campaign, and the greatest effort required of me was to restrain the advance from a general attack upon the enemy until the rear was in supporting distance. The commanders of brigades, Colonel Philips, of the Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia; Colonel Beveridge, of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, and Colonel Gravely, of

the Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, throughout the campaign, while under my command, conducted themselves in the most energetic and soldierly manner, and have earned the gratitude and confidence of the country. My staff officers—Capt. William T. Kittredge, assistant adjutant-general; Surg. H. H. Maynard, acting medical director; Maj. A. B. Freeburn, Second Arkansas Cavalry; Capt. John G. Quinn, Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia; Capt. Charles W. Rubey, Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia; Lieut. S. Lee Davis, Seventh Minnesota Infantry, and Lieut. D. E. Murphy, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, my personal aides, and Lieut. George Graves, Sixth Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, acting commissary of subsistence, and Lieut. Samuel Turner, Sixth Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, acting quartermaster—conducted themselves throughout the entire campaign in the most prompt, energetic, and gallant manner.

During the campaign my brigade captured 1 piece of artillery, 250 stand of small-arms, and 800 prisoners, including those captured in the district. The casualties in my brigade during the entire campaign were 1 officer killed and 5 officers wounded, and 9 enlisted men killed and 76 enlisted men wounded, and 1 man missing, as will appear more fully from the accompanying lists. Reports from subordinate commanders are transmitted herewith.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. CLIFFORD THOMSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division.

List of officers and men killed, wounded, and missing in the Third Brigade, Cavalry Division, in the campaign against the rebel army under General Price, in Missouri, during the month of October, 1864.

RECAPITULATION.

Regiment.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	
6th Cavalry Missouri State Militia	1	1	2	1	17	18	.....	.....	.....	20
8th Cavalry Missouri State Militia	.....	2	2	2	22	24	.....	1	1	27
6th Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia.	.....	5	5	2	26	28	.....	.....	.....	33
2d Arkansas Cavalry	.....	1	1	.....	10	10	.....	.....	.....	11
Total	1	9	10	5	75	80	.....	1	1	91

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI,
Springfield, Mo., November 13, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command during the late movement of the rebel army under General Price into and through this State:

Preparations for this campaign on the part of the rebels commenced in the valley of the White River about the 10th of June last, General Shelby arriving there with his division, seizing all mills and horses

for Government use, and commencing a rigid conscription, as communicated in my telegraphic dispatches to department headquarters on the 15th and 16th of that month.

On the —— day of September I was informed from department headquarters that Price had crossed the Arkansas, and on the following day my scouts brought in the same report, stating that his command consisted of a large mounted force and some twenty pieces of artillery, with a train of about 600 wagons.

On the 23d of September it was ascertained that the rebel army was moving toward Batesville. I had already concentrated all the troops that could be spared from the various outposts of this district, and at once sent out a detachment of 100 men of the Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, under Captain Sallee, to reconnoiter. He moved to a point below the mouth of the North Fork of the White River, and returning on the 26th day of September reported the entire force of the enemy moving rapidly up the Blackwater.

On the 27th day of September, pursuant to a telegraphic order from the general commanding, dated September 26, 1864, I moved with all my available cavalry force in the direction of Rolla, leaving a sufficient force at this place to make it reasonably secure. I arrived at Rolla with my command, consisting of about 1,500 cavalry, at 3 p. m. on the 29th, making the entire distance of 120 miles in fifty-eight hours.

On the evening of October 1 information was received that General Ewing and his command were at Leasburg, hard pressed by the enemy. On the following morning I moved my command to Saint James. Soon after my arrival there I received information from Colonel Beveridge, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, who had been ordered to Leasburg by General McNeil, that he was within a few miles of that place, and had met with no opposition. This seemed to indicate conclusively that the enemy had moved forward on a line of march east of Leasburg, and I abandoned the idea of moving any farther down the road.

At 1 a. m. on the 2d of October I received a verbal message from General Ewing, through a Mr. Smith, of Cuba, stating that the enemy was still near him in heavy force and that it would be imprudent for him to move out with his small force. I immediately ordered Col. John E. Phelps to proceed with his own regiment, the Second Arkansas Cavalry, and the Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia to Leasburg and to cover any movement that General Ewing might desire to make. This order was executed promptly, but this force met General Ewing's command at Knob View. The enemy was still reported in the immediate vicinity of the railroad. A train of cars had been left at Leasburg, and early on the following morning I moved forward to Cuba, repaired the track, sent down to Leasburg and brought the train out unharmed, and at the same time learned that the entire force of the enemy had crossed the road near Sullivan and moved in a northwest direction. I communicated my information and intentions to General McNeil and received word that he would be at Vienna with his command the next evening. I moved with my command at daylight the next day, October 4, joined McNeil at Vienna that evening, and reached Jefferson City in thirty-six hours after leaving Cuba, a distance of about eighty miles, crossing the ford on the Osage but a few hours before the enemy.

At the Osage information came from ——— by an orderly that the enemy was already across the Osage at a point farther down and his advance fighting at the Moreau. This induced me to move my command from the Osage forward to the Moreau before reporting to General Brown.

About 4 p. m. on the following day, October 6, the enemy commenced skirmishing with my pickets on the Bolton Ferry road, but fell back when stoutly resisted. At 7 o'clock on the following morning the enemy made an attack on this road in heavy force. The regiments of my brigade, with the exception of the Sixth and Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, had been moved into town and assigned to their positions as indicated by General Fisk, who had now assumed command. Colonel Gravely, Eighth Missouri State Militia, was assigned to the command of the two regiments left at and beyond the Moreau on this road, with instructions to fall back slowly, fighting, before the enemy. Colonel Gravely maneuvered his line handsomely, and punished the enemy very severely beyond and at the Moreau, and from the Moreau to the Fair Grounds, upon a road leading in upon our left, commanded by General Brown. I therefore requested General Brown to relieve the two regiments of my command, which had now been engaged over four hours, at a point about a quarter of a mile south of the Fair Grounds, that I might move them to their positions in the line before the engagement should become general. A regiment, or part of a regiment, of infantry came forward to take the place of the cavalry. This regiment seemed to be inexperienced and was badly managed, and broke and fled upon the withdrawal of the cavalry, both infantry and cavalry sustaining some loss in the movement. The enemy, whose main column, not yet deployed, was now moving in full view down the road, seemed to take great courage and rushed on rapidly. The main column was now in easy range of my artillery, and I immediately sent orders to Captain Sutter to open fire with his guns (12-pounder Napoleons) upon it, and after a few shots the enemy halted and then fell back behind the crest of a ridge. His column was soon visible, moving past our center, about one mile in our front, covered by a long line of battle. It was then supposed that he was moving a portion of his force to our right, and making preparations for a general attack all along our lines. The enemy made no further attack during the day, and no demonstrations during the night, and this induced the belief that he was retreating.

At sunrise on the following morning I directed Colonel Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry, to advance with one battalion of his command and attack that portion of the enemy's line still visible in our front, which order was obeyed with the greatest promptness. The enemy skirmished pretty heavily at first, but upon a charge being made with two squadrons mounted, he broke and fled, pursued for nearly two miles by the charging force. In this affair the enemy lost 1 man killed and the usual proportion of wounded. Our loss was 1 man wounded. The results of this reconnaissance were immediately communicated to the general commanding. Shortly afterward I received orders from Major-General Pleasonton, who had now assumed command of all the U. S. forces at Jefferson City, to pursue the enemy at once and as far as practicable, with all the available cavalry. A portion of our cavalry was already in pursuit, under orders from General Fisk, and the balance of the force was immediately ordered to march. A full account of my operations under this order is included in my report to Major-General Pleasonton.*

On the —— day of November I received the telegraphic order of the general commanding the department to take command of the troops composing General McNeil's brigade and Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen's brigade, and with this force and all the available cavalry force of the

*See p. 385.

district to continue the pursuit of the enemy to or beyond the Arkansas, until he was fully within the grasp of the troops of General Steele. Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen's brigade was already near Fayetteville and was directed to co-operate with General Curtis, then in pursuit of the enemy. All the cavalry of this district available for field service were ordered to concentrate at Cassville. General McNeil's brigade being in an unsuitable condition for the field, on account of the exhaustion of the horses and men in the pursuit of Price already made, was directed to remain at Springfield until further orders. General McNeil having raised the question of rank, and the orders of the general commanding having been made known to him by me, acted upon his own judgment.

On the morning of the —— day of November I directed Major Melton, Second Arkansas Cavalry, to move with 400 men via Cane Hill to Fort Smith, communicate with General Thayer, commanding at that post, and ascertain if he needed any assistance, and ascertain also the amount of ordnance and subsistence stores at Fayetteville and Fort Smith. Major Melton reached Fort Smith on the morning of the 8th without opposition. General Thayer communicated to me that everything was in a satisfactory condition and that Price had moved west from Cane Hill. I also received information that Price crossed the Arkansas with Shelby's and Marmaduke's divisions on the evening of the 7th instant, at Webber's Falls, and that Fagan with 6,000 men had moved east. The country which the enemy had reached being destitute of all forage, and there being but small prospect of doing him any damage by further pursuit, I directed that the same be abandoned, and ordered the troops to their respective posts.

During my absence from the district the troops and militia in the district were kept busily engaged attacking, dispersing, and driving out bodies of the enemy attempting to pass through the district, the enemy sustaining serious loss.

On the 29th of October Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron, Second Arkansas Cavalry, with a detachment of about 400 men, attacked a force of about 800 rebels, in Barry County, and by a sudden dash broke the enemy's line, killing 50 of his men, and capturing 37 men prisoners, 58 horses, 4 mules, some small-arms, and other property. On the same day Lieutenant Colonel Brutsche attacked a body of rebels, killing a large number and taking a large number of prisoners.

Fortifications were constructed about Springfield and other posts in the district during the time the enemy was in the State.

The citizens and enrolled militia are entitled to great credit for their zeal and labors in driving the common enemy from the State and preserving this section of the State from devastation and ruin. These forces with the U. S. troops remaining in the district have captured more than 800 prisoners, and otherwise greatly crippled the enemy.

For such faithful services, attended with results so important, the troops, Federal and State, and the citizens generally, are entitled to the gratitude of the country.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Col. JOHN V. DU BOIS,
Chief of Staff.

No. 34.

Report of Capt. William T. Kittredge, U. S. Army, Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI,
Springfield, Mo., November 4, 1864.

Captain Cassairt reports having a fight with the rebels on the 1st instant near Quincy, and with 600 men near Hermitage on the 2d instant. The rebels were routed each time, losing 2 captains and 18 men killed, and many wounded. Our loss, none. Papers found on the bodies show that they belonged to Shelby's brigade, of Jeff. Thompson's division. Captain Cassairt has fallen back to Bolivar for ammunition and will come here, as he can get none there. He reports 1,000 rebels moving down by the way of Warsaw and Osage. This is reliable. A rebel force is reported north of Bolivar yesterday. I can hear nothing from Colonel Phelps or the other troops sent out. Small bodies are constantly passing south. One gang had a stage, supposed to be the Rolla stage. Fifteen wagons were captured while foraging, belonging to the post of Lebanon. We can hear nothing of the subsistence train. Cannot keep the wires up to Lebanon. I have sent Martin out east to learn what he can.

WM. T. KITTREDGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Brigadier-General SANBORN,
Cassville.

No. 35.

Reports of Col. M. La Rue Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS,
Fayetteville, Ark., October 28, 1864.

I have the honor to make the following official report of an engagement at this place, and request that you will forward the same to headquarters Department of the Missouri, together with my report of yesterday's skirmishing, which was sent you last evening:

Fayetteville was attacked this morning by a strong force, who posted themselves at sunrise on the almost inaccessible bluffs of East Mountain, about 1,000 yards east of town, and opened a brisk fire on my camp. I immediately ordered Capt. D. C. Hopkins, supported by Capt. E. B. Harrison, to move up the mountain with a line of dismounted skirmishers. When within about 200 yards of the top of the bluff they engaged the enemy, whom, as soon as their exact position was ascertained, I commenced shelling with a 12-pounder mountain howitzer, causing them to move their position several times. At the same time Captain Hopkins and Captain Harrison led their men, less than 100 strong, up the mountain in the face of a galling fire from 700 rebels, charging the topmost bluff three times, and the third time driving the enemy from their position. We found 12 rebels dead; among them 1 captain and 2 lieutenants, all of whom are now being buried by my men, who hold the top of the mountain top. We lost in the charge only 3 men seriously and 4 slightly wounded, none killed. East Mountain occupies the same relative position to Fayetteville, I am told, that

Lookout does to Chattanooga, and too much honor cannot be given to the gallant men who carried its crest to-day, among whom I should not neglect to mention Capt. G. R. King, Lieutenant Vaughan, and Lieutenant Munday. About 9 a. m. I saw a thick cloud of dust rising in the southwest, and soon another rebel column was displayed on that side of the place and commenced a vigorous attack, but a few well-directed shells caused them to fall back. The firing ceased about 12.30 p. m., and the enemy retired. I am informed that a portion of Gano's command is to attack me in the morning with four pieces of artillery. It is also reported that a part of Magruder's infantry is crossing the Arkansas River. Should I find these reports to be true I will inform you at once. This position is a favorable one; has no wealth to tempt the enemy. Merchandise, subsistence, and quartermaster's stores mostly expended, and as they could not expect to hold it long, would not pay a great sacrifice in taking it With a re-enforcement of 1,500 men and a battery we could hold out against Price's whole army. I shall rely on you for daily information of movements north of me.

M. LA RUE HARRISON,
Colonel First Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding.

SATURDAY, *October 29—11 a. m.*

All is quiet here. No messengers have arrived from Fort Smith for more than a week. Several are known to be captured. Rebels are watching all roads. Dispatches were received here from Cassville yesterday morning. Messengers due this morning not arrived. Rumors from rebel sources still threaten us with a strong column from the south with artillery. My scouts are out endeavoring to obtain reliable information.

M. LA RUE HARRISON,
Colonel First Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding.

Lieutenant-Colonel BRUTSCHE,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of S. W. Mo., Springfield, Mo.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Fayetteville, Ark., November 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Commanding Army of the Border:

GENERAL: Herewith I transmit to you my official report, in obedience to your orders. I have taken the liberty to extend it back to include the whole of the present campaign, believing that thereby I would be able to make it more satisfactory. Allow me to express my gratitude to you for your personal kindness to me from my first acquaintance with you up to the present time, as well as for the honor of commanding the advance of your army on the late march.

I remain, general, your most obedient servant,

M. LA RUE HARRISON,
Colonel First Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARKANSAS TROOPS,
In the Field, Camp Sallisaw, November 10, 1864.

GENERAL: In obedience to your orders of the 8th instant, I have the honor to make the following report of the movements of my command as connected with the present campaign:

Shortly after the return of General Steele's Camden expedition Maj. Buck Brown returned to Northwestern Arkansas with a band of 180

marauders, which has since increased to about 500, and Colonel Brooks with 300, since increased to nearly 1,200 men. Brooks was appointed by Magruder to take charge of this district and to organize all the predatory bands into a cavalry brigade, to be commanded by himself. These bands during the summer have given Union citizens great annoyance, constantly plundering and driving them from their homes, until the rebel rule in the surrounding country has been for a time almost complete. Until lately they have been unable to effect anything against the troops here more than to annoy small foraging parties, mail-carriers, and telegraph repairers. The duties devolving upon my command (eleven companies of cavalry), which was the only one in a country 110 miles broad and 250 miles long, have been so arduous that with from 100 to 300 horses (the greatest number at any one time on hand during the summer and autumn) it has been impossible to carry mails to Cassville and Van Buren, fifty-five miles each way, to keep the telegraph in repair, forage for the post, escort supply trains, and at the same time do the amount of scouting necessary to keep the country rid of the roving bands of the enemy. Since the commencement of Price's raid these desperadoes had become more bold and seriously threatened for some time the post of Fayetteville and the Government supply trains. On the 20th of October, while I was passing with a train through Benton County from Cassville, Mo., with an escort of 170 men, I met and attacked 600 men under Buck Brown, who was awaiting my approach. The engagement lasted for over two hours, when the rebels were routed in confusion, with a loss of several killed and wounded. Before my arrival I learned that Brooks, with 800 men, was lying in ambush at Fitzgerald Mountain, and at midnight passed around his camp, leaving it five miles on my left, and arrived in safety with my train at 1 p. m. on the 25th. Brooks then invested the town of Fayetteville with his forces, expecting thereby to starve the garrison into submission, but in this he was deceived. By reducing my issues to seven ounces of bread per day I found that my stores would hold out for twenty days, and felt assured that ere that was exhausted assistance would come. My only trouble was forage. It was impossible to send out my train without the most imminent danger of its capture. I therefore procured gunny-sacks for each teamster and mounted man, and watching the safest opportunities sent out my men as often as possible under an experienced officer.

On the 27th Capt. D. C. Hopkins, commanding forage detachment, after procuring his supplies, was attacked by 500 men under Brown and fought his way into camp for five miles, occupying four hours in falling back, which he did in good order, without loss, though narrowly escaping, being attacked in his rear by 800 men under Brooks, who had gone to Brown's assistance. At sunrise October 28 Brooks occupied East Mountain and commenced an attack on my outworks. I immediately detached Capt. D. C. Hopkins and Capt. E. B. Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry, with a dismounted force, who charged up the side of the mountain in face of a deadly fire from the enemy, and at the third attempt drove him from the summit, capturing his dead and wounded, together with quite an amount of forage and some small-arms. At 10 a. m. Brown attacked the west side of the works, but was repulsed with loss in about two hours; the whole engagement lasted from sunrise until noon, when the enemy retreated. Brooks' loss on the east was, by admission of the enemy, 12 killed and about 25 wounded, several mortally. Brown's loss on the west 11 killed and wounded. My own 2 mortally, 1 severely, and 4 slightly wounded. The enemy still hovered about,

cutting off my communications and supplies, evidently with the hope of obtaining assistance from Price on his return, and it came at last. Early on the morning of the 3d of November a scout came into the garrison with the report that 8,000 rebels, with two pieces of artillery, under command of Major-General Fagan, were marching upon the town from Cane Hill. I found this report to be very nearly correct. Price detached Fagan with 5,200 men and two pieces of artillery, which force was joined on the march by 1,500 men under Brooks and Brown. They attacked my pickets and commenced bombarding the town with all their boasted chivalry, not giving me the least time to remove families (mostly their own at that) nor demanding a surrender. The bombardment was kept up with one 6-pounder rifled gun and one 12-pounder field howitzer until nearly sunset. Three times the order was given to charge the works, but each time the men on coming within range of my rifles shrank from the assault and fled to a safe position. At sunset the retreat of the enemy commenced and was continued during the whole night by divers routes, the majority, with the artillery, returning to Cane Hill; at sunrise on the 4th instant only about 600 remained to cover the retreat. By the admissions of the enemy and reports from prisoners their loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners was about 100 (over 75 being killed and wounded). My loss was 9 wounded—1 mortally, 8 slightly. The strength of my command during the engagement was 958 volunteers and 170 militia; total, 1,128. On the arrival of the Army of the Border I was ordered with my command to join in the pursuit of Price, and at 11 a. m. November 5 moved out in advance of the column, which post of honor I was permitted through the favor of the commanding general to hold until the close of the campaign (four days), when I watered the horses of my command in the Arkansas River and returned to this place, arriving on the 12th.

During the siege, which lasted from October 26 to November 4, ten days, the troops, both volunteers and militia, labored faithfully by day and several nights by torchlight upon the fortifications under command of Capt. H. C. C. Botchfuhr, First Arkansas Cavalry, to whose calmness and faithfulness as well as bravery much of our success is due. By all the officers and men of my command much credit is deserved for their zeal in carrying out my orders and their hearty co-operation.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. LA RUE HARRISON,
Colonel First Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Commanding Army of the Border.

No. 36.

Report of Col. John E. Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
Springfield, Mo., November 2, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that in obedience to orders from your headquarters of date September 26, 1864, six companies (B, D, F, H, K, and M) of this regiment, and under my immediate command, moved from Springfield, Mo., on the day following at 5 a. m., and marching on the road to Rolla arrived at that place at 3 p. m., having

bivouacked both at Lebanon and Waynesville, two posts on the road. From Rolla, together with the other regiments of the brigade, my command reached Saint James on the 30th of September, and was joined there by Squadron L on the 1st of October. On the 2d of the month, in connection with the Seventh Enrolled Missouri Militia, joined purposely to the Second Arkansas Cavalry, the regiment was marched to Knob View, with orders, if necessary, to go to Harrison and meet General Ewing's forces, then pursued by the rebel cavalry, and to assist General Ewing, who was met at Knob View. It was there agreed to leave with him the Seventh Enrolled Missouri Militia, while the Second Arkansas would extend a reconnaissance to the south and east, and both march to Saint James the same day. In the reconnaissance the regiment visited Massey's Iron-Works, at the headwaters of the Meramec. They had been visited by a band of rebel prowlers, of whom none were to be seen. The regiment arrived at Saint James almost simultaneously with General Ewing's troops. Marching to Cuba the next day (3d of October) the column moved on the 4th in a northerly direction and reached Vienna, a village on the road to Jefferson City, which was made the next day, the regiment halting three miles from the town, with the horses saddled all night. The rebels were then reported to advance and to attempt a crossing of Osage River. On the morning of the 6th, while regiments of other brigades were actively engaged in skirmishing with the enemy and disputing the crossing of the Osage, the Second Arkansas remained in line, and while in the afternoon the Sixth and Eighth Missouri State Militia were annoying and detaining the enemy between Osage and Moreau Creek the regiment was kept under arms. All the efforts of the Sixth and Eighth Missouri State Militia, however, could not succeed in inflicting a repulse on the invading forces, and these kept advancing. The regiment was then called in, and at 4 a. m. October 7 marched into Jefferson City, and on the west of town took position, occupying ground between the Sixth Provisional on the left and a section of 12-pounder howitzers (Battery B, Second Missouri Artillery) on the right. Soon after the skirmishing regiments were driven in and the rebel army poured its columns of cavalry around from the east to the west of town. They were passing in full view. The 12-pounder howitzers were tried without effect; shells even with 5-second fuses failed to reach the rebel column. Meantime mounted skirmishers were constantly kept in front of the regiment toward the enemy. At night the skirmish line was dismounted, and on the line of the regiment rifle-pits dug or erected, in some places well contrived and quite powerful.

Early in the morning of the 8th three squadrons of the regiment were thrown forward, mounted, to try the enemy's position, and find out their intentions if possible. The line of dismounted skirmishers advanced at the same time, supported by those three squadrons (B, D, and M), under their respective commanders. The place is a little ridge, flanked on each side from east to west by a deep ravine, and terminates to a plateau on the west; toward the east it is covered with dense woods and timber, on the west by thick brush. Squadron B dismounts and moves forward on the enemy, then showing themselves and in force in front. The dismounted men are sent to the left to make an impression on the enemy's flank—D Squadron had been ordered to the right in the ravine; M Squadron was kept as reserve. Squadron B moves up gallantly to the work, and the dismounted skirmishers showing themselves on the left, and D Squadron the right, the enemy wavering, M Squadron coming up to the charge put them to flight, the two mounted squadrons (M and D) keeping up the pursuit. Such was the rapidity of the move-

ment that wounded and dead were left by the enemy on the field. After the pursuit reconnaissance was extended to a mill four miles from town; the enemy was not to be seen; the command returned then to Jefferson City, but to receive orders to move forthwith on the Sedalia, or Boonville, road, where Philips' brigade, sent forward, had already caught up with Price's rear and engaged in a skirmish at the crossing of Moreau Creek. At 6 a. m. the next day the regiment, placed under the same command, with the Ninth Missouri State Militia, joined the Second Brigade, then in front, where a lively skirmishing was taking place. The rebels retreating, our forces advancing, the command crossed Moreau. Near Russellville the skirmishing became so spirited that artillery was twice brought to the front to disperse the rebel lines. The same evening California, on the railroad, was occupied after an artillery duel between the contending forces. Leaving California on the 10th and passing through Tipton the same day, the Second Arkansas was before Boonville on the 11th; together with the Sixth Enrolled Missouri Militia they encountered the enemy's skirmishers three miles from the city. Deploying immediately as skirmishers, the two regiments drove the enemy to their line. Three squadrons of the Second Arkansas on the right, B, H, and L, mounted, the Sixth Enrolled Missouri Militia on the left, dismounted, with the remaining four squadrons of the Second Arkansas mounted for support, made such vigorous demonstration that the enemy brought their artillery to bear. The Sixth and Eighth Missouri State Militia in the meantime and the other Provisional regiment had taken position, but it was deemed advisable to withdraw, and the regiment retired the distance of half a mile, awaiting what movement the withdrawal would cause the enemy to make and to venture. No demonstration being made, at 5 p. m., under orders from your headquarters to advance the skirmish line and try the enemy again, three squadrons, B, F, and D, of the Second Arkansas Cavalry were marched again for that purpose, and engaging the enemy at once, drove their skirmishers again under protection of their line of battle, and their artillery was again brought into play. The squadrons retired upon the regiment and all went to bivouac beyond Saline Creek, to take the road to California the next day after rations. Then from California on the Boonville and Georgetown road by Palestine, then through Georgetown on the road to Lexington, to Cook's Store by Dunksburg 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th of October.

From Cook's Store, on the 16th, 200 men of the regiment, to whom had been added 100 of the Sixth Enrolled Missouri Militia, were ordered on a reconnaissance to Dunksburg, eight miles. Sedalia had been occupied by Thompson and a force of rebels variously reported at from 3,000 to 5,000, and it was suspected or anticipated that they might maneuver against our forces at Cook's Store. The reconnaissance was made—parties sent out from Dunksburg for information. No traces of the enemy were to be found. From Sedalia Thompson had returned directly toward the Missouri River. The bivouac, however, was changed to a wood two miles beyond Dunksburg the next day, whence the two squadrons, D and L, were sent as part of a reconnaissance in the direction of Brownsville almost due north, the bivouac being changed again to Cook's Store October 19; from this place, at midnight, the regiment, re-enforced by two companies of the Sixth Missouri State Militia, under Major Plumb, throws itself by a rapid march upon the enemy's position, then in possession of Lexington and occupying Dover and to the east of it. At or shortly after sunrise October 20 the regiment is marched to the entrance of Dover, and Squadrons L and K

charge through town. M Squadron is sent to the support of K, charging in the west of town, sweeping rebels before them. In this expedition and charge 3 men were killed or wounded of the rebels, and 13 taken prisoners, among them four commissioned officers. Though within two miles and a half of Shelby's brigade on the left, and a strong force on the right, the regiment withdrew unmolested. The enemy, supposing from the audacity of the attack that it had been made by a strong force, busied themselves in closing up their scattered columns—thought nothing of pursuit, but hastened to evacuate Lexington instead. October 21, meanwhile, the brigade had approached Lexington. The regiment followed on and took position in camp the same night, with the others of the brigade. In approaching the city, in the fields, and in the lanes, were visible the marks of a recent engagement, but leaving the city to the right, the column was winding in the afternoon toward Independence. The 22d opened by skirmishing at some distance from the town, but the enemy losing ground constantly the outskirts of the city were soon reached. On the left about the entrance and a little further into town there was a very spirited fire of musketry; the enemy even was not sparing of artillery. The regiment was then ordered to dismount. It did so, and across streets, ditches, inclosures, and lanes moved on at a rapid step. A party of rebels attempted to form to the right and front; they were scattered in a moment, and the regiment marched on until fatigued and exhausted by the march. They were halted in line in an inclosure the other side of the town, abreast, if not ahead, of any other troops. It was at this juncture that the cavalry charge was given and the rebel guns were captured by Catherwood's veterans. The Second Arkansas Cavalry and one company of the Sixth Missouri State Militia were on the field on the right and fully up with the guns in advance of any other command, ready to envelop the position of the rebel artillery, which had no alternative but to give way to a charge of cavalry, or be taken by the maneuver of this dismounted regiment. Here was found Cabell's naked sword, and one of his staff taken prisoner.

Next day Little Blue was crossed. The crossing had been disputed by Price's rear, but finally carried by our advance. The regiment was soon placed in position, dismounted on the hill beyond, with orders to clear the left of the road. Deploying in line and advancing steadily and rapidly they were brought to a halt some two miles beyond their horses, who had not yet and were not for some time after brought up. At this time the advance line withdrew some distance from suspicion of a movement of the enemy on the right. The apprehension, however, did not appear founded, and all the cavalry being brought up in position, a charge of the whole line took place upon the rear of the rebel army. The Second Arkansas Cavalry, the last brought up, and detained by fences, ditches, and works of masonry, arrived in time yet to give the last blow. The enemy, protected by stone structures (fences), had formed a double line in order to conceal and protect the maneuvers of their artillery. Here also they had burnt wagons. As soon as their artillery was planted anew, the Second Arkansas at the same time advancing in column of attack, they withdrew toward their artillery for mutual protection. In three divisions of regiments the enemy stood in the brushwood on both sides of the piece enfilading the road, the other division on open ground in advance and to the right of the artillery. On went the regiment with serried squadrons. The artillery of the enemy, well served and well aimed, planted the shells in the column with an unerring accuracy, but the column did not waver, and

seeing it closing on them every step, the rebels fled before the regiment, taking their artillery away. Two ditches or gullies impassable to cavalry saved it by retarding the progress of the regiment and turning the column, but the rebels were severely punished nevertheless. The road beyond, strewn with dead, ammunition, wagons, and horses, testified it amply. The regiment continued the pursuit and kept annoying the rear until the whole column of the rebel army on that road had crossed the stream in the valley and cleared the top of the hill two miles beyond the extreme limits of the battle-field. The same evening found the regiment in bivouac beyond Little Santa Fé, a village half in Missouri, half in Kansas, and the next evening saw it within twenty-five miles of Fort Scott, sixty-five miles from Santa Fé, in an advanced position to the support of artillery brought up to the front, ready for an early engagement next morning. The artillery opened at daybreak. At once the Second Arkansas was deployed as skirmishers across a piece of prairie into the timber and brushwood of the Marais des Cygnes, the Second Colorado Cavalry being on the right. Those woods having been visited and cleared the regiment was withdrawn, and in rear of the Second Colorado, to their right, marched in column to the ford of the stream, interrupted by an abatis on the other or opposite bank. The ford was occupied, a few shots only being fired, and the squadrons crossed over and forward. In advancing, a small piece of ordnance was discovered on the right, abandoned by the enemy. (It has since been appropriated as a trophy by another command, though bestowed upon the Second Arkansas by order of General Rosecrans.) Directly after, the advance reported the enemy in front formed in line of battle. The regiment, at most 200 strong, moved up and formed immediately; the Second Colorado having crossed the creek shortly afterward came up also and formed on the left and to the rear of the Second Arkansas, who galloped immediately to the charge. The line of skirmishers of the enemy were sent flying to their line of battle, when the artillery, opening upon the Second Arkansas with fury, checked their advance and compelled them to reform their line, which they did under fire, while the Second Colorado, unmoved and behind cover, never pretended to offer a support, which might have won for that regiment glorious results, and which the skirmishers of Gravely, though dismounted, attempted to give, but it was too late. Two hundred men alone could not do what an hour afterward, at the crossing of the Osage, three brigades succeeded in accomplishing, and these won laurels and elicited praise for their gallantry. They earned it nobly.

The Third Brigade, after that first charge, had been halted and ordered to rest. In the meantime heavy cannonading and musketry was going on in front at the ford of the Osage. It was the climax of the battle, and at its sound the Third Brigade, with men and horses half starved, jaded, and exhausted, was moved at a gallop to the front. They saw as they passed the enemy's artillery captured, they saw the prisoners, they saw Marmaduke and Cabell (two renowned rebel chiefs) in our hands; it was enough; the Third Brigade was ready for battle. Across a prairie and over a ridge they trot, they run, and form in an immense valley at the foot of the ridge, with other brigades in order of echelon. The Third Brigade occupied the center of the front line, and of this line the Second Arkansas formed the right center. Forward and along the valley sweeps the long line, then in double column across a stream to another prairie on the right, then again in line as before and to the charge. Down the prairie to the edge of the woods, and partly across a fenced field, the first line gallops, then as skirmishers

through the dense brush, the ravines, and undergrowth to the creek beyond. In this movement the two squadrons, H and L, of the Second Arkansas Cavalry were separated from the command, but soon again brought up in line on the other side of the creek. A passage had been effected, and the line formed again under cover, or rather in the face of a steep perpendicular bank entirely commanding the valley below. The Second Arkansas, once formed, moved up the embankment in good style, and gaining the plateau above, marched boldly to the work. Forward resounds on all sides, and now the enemy, seeing the line advance to the charge, dare not wait; they fly. In a vale at some three-fourths of a mile beyond, however, and under cover of a projection of woods into the prairie, they stand, emboldened by the conduct, almost inexplicable, of some of the troops, both on the right and left, but more so on the left, among whom was a command with sabers drawn. Vainly were those troops encouraged to move forward; Lieutenant-Colonel McMahan, of the Sixth Provisional, made fruitless efforts to move them; in vain was Major Rush, of the Seventh [Sixth?] Provisional, sent to move them by order of General Pleasonton; they failed to come up. The center, however, renewed the charge, the Second Arkansas leading, and the enemy broke in dismay, the pursuers giving them no time to form any line. After the charge might have been seen the effect of protracted marches and exhausted men and horses. Of the leading regiment, hardly more than fifty men arrived together at the top of the ridge, where they were last halted to form again. The rest, as well as other regiments, were scattered pell-mell over two miles of ground, without order, without commanders, without any point to rally upon but the small squad that had stood the work so well. On the other side the enemy had formed anew. In front was a strong line; to the left front numerous rallying squads and skirmishers; but the other brigades had arrived also, and being thrown forward, they dislodged the enemy from their position without any trouble. The Third Brigade moved as fast as they could behind them, and at last, passing in the rear of our lines, beyond which the rebel line could plainly be seen, left the field at 5.15 p. m. October 25, on the way toward Fort Scott, six or seven miles distant. Blunt's division was then arriving on the field, its column not quite abreast of the Second Arkansas. The regiment rested and recruited at Fort Scott, and with others of the brigade left on the 27th, passing through Lamar, and on the road McNeil's brigade, near the trail leading to the Osage Agency. A bivouac was at last reached on Buck Creek, five miles from Johnson's Mills, on Spring River.

The next day, following the Neosho road and passing through Granby, the brigade arrived at Newtonia, unexpected but most welcome. Blunt had there engaged the enemy, and was being signally defeated; his forces badly cut up and without ammunition were giving way, while the enemy, pouring in re-enforcements, were determined to pursue their advantage and reap it as [fast as] possible. But the arrival of the Third Brigade changed the aspect of affairs. In a moment the regiments were dismounted and thrown in line toward the most threatened point. Steadily they kept advancing; at their approach the enemy's artillery was withdrawn, and soon after their cavalry, heedless of the bugle that called to the charge, filed off by platoons, and left the historical field of Newtonia in Federal hands. The brigade remained in line until 9 p. m., amid the darkness. Thus in thirty-six hours they marched 104 miles and by their unexpected appearance turned a defeat into a victory.

On the 29th the Third Brigade moved again from Newtonia. This time it was toward their camps and homes; they reached Springfield on the 31st of October, loaded with the palms of victory. It repays them amply for the hardships and privations of a thirty-five days' campaign, and the labors of a march as performed by the Second Arkansas Cavalry of upward of 950 miles. As commander of this regiment, I have tried in this report while mentioning the regiment to be fair toward all commands with which the regiment may have been associated or placed in contact during the campaign. My report I believe will prove correct. I will not close, however, without paying to the soldiers of the regiment at large the tribute due to their prowess and to their valor displayed on every occasion, and to the officers under my command the highest praise for their alacrity and readiness to obey and execute my orders, for their noble emulation and their unsurpassed gallantry on many a battle-field. Where all are worthy and deserving impartiality forbids to mention any name; but they will all join me in mentioning with pride and gratitude the medical officer of the regiment, Assistant Surgeon Turner, for his innumerable services on the field, his indefatigable energy in caring for the wounded of this and other regiments. There is a heroism of devotion, as well as a heroism of bravery. Both deserve equal honor, equal credit. It is only just that it should be equally bestowed.

The following table* will exhibit the total loss of my regiment during the series of engagements above reported; and when it is compared to the danger incurred and the loss inflicted upon the enemy, I have reason to be thankful that it has been so trifling.

JOHN E. PHELPS,
Colonel Second Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding Regiment.

[General JOHN B. SANBORN.]

No. 37.

Report of Lieut. Col. Hugh Cameron, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT,
In the Field, Mount Vernon, Mo., October 31, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the 29th of October, 1864, with a detachment of about 400 men, principally of the Second Arkansas Cavalry, I pursued a body of rebels, supposed to be 800 strong, under command of Colonel Hodge, from Buck Prairie, Lawrence County, and encountered them at the Upshaw farm near Camp Bliss, Barry County. Routed and dispersed them; killed 50, took 37 prisoners, 58 horses, 4 mules, a large number of saddles, and several stand of arms. Three wounded only were found; the remainder escaped on their horses or concealed themselves in the brush. The prisoners report that there were ten captains with Colonel Hodge, viz, Captains Thomas Todd and John Merrick, Captains Sitton, Kimball, Shull, Rudd, Withers, Onam, Arnold, and Annabury. The last named was killed early in the encounter. My loss was 1 man slightly wounded, 1 man injured by his horse falling, and a few horses crippled.

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 enlisted man killed and 11 wounded.

The officers and men under my command behaved gallantly. Captain Mitchell, Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, commanding the advance, deserves to be especially mentioned.

I have the honor to be, general, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

HUGH CAMERON,
Lieut. Col. Second Ark. Cav., Comdg. Detach. in the Field.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 38.

Report of Lieut. Col. John F. McMahan, Sixth Cavalry Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. SIXTH PROV. ENROLLED MISSOURI MILITIA,
Springfield, Mo., November 4, 1864.

CAPTAIN: For the information of the general commanding I have the honor to submit the following report of casualties and the part taken by my regiment while in the Third Brigade, Cavalry Division, commanded by Major-General Pleasonton:

I left Springfield September 27, 1864, marched, via Lebanon, Rolla, Cuba, and Vienna, crossing the Osage at Castle Rock, to Jefferson City, arriving on the 6th of October. Here we remained until the evening of the 8th, then marched west by way of California and Tipton, and bivouacked on the night of the 10th twelve miles south of Boonville. On the 11th we moved at 6 o'clock in direction of Boonville. I was at once ordered to move with my command to the right until I struck the road leading from Pisgah to Boonville; I then turned to the left, marching on the right flank of our main column immediately upon Boonville, driving in the enemy's pickets, killing one and capturing another. I was here ordered to halt until Colonel Gravely came up, when my regiment was dismounted, deployed in line of skirmishers, and moved upon the enemy secreted in thick underwoods. We engaged him warmly for two hours, driving him until ordered by Colonel Gravely to fall back, which I did in perfect order, having 2 enlisted men killed, 1 commissioned officer and 4 enlisted men wounded. On the 12th we marched back to California, received supplies, and moved on the 13th in the direction of Independence. On the 22d, five miles east of Independence, I was ordered to follow a road bearing to the right and flanking the enemy on the left. After marching to within one mile and a half of the city, I then formed a strong skirmish line and pushed rapidly into town, as the enemy retreated on the opposite side. We bivouacked on the night of the 22d two miles from Independence, on the Kansas City road. On the morning of the 23d we moved at an early hour to the plains south of Kansas City, where we found the enemy in strong force. I was here ordered by Major-General Pleasonton to charge the enemy on the extreme right, which I did, driving him three miles, with a loss of 2 killed and 17 wounded, after which I rejoined the brigade and marched south of Little Santa Fé.

On the 24th we made a march of fifty miles and bivouacked at 12 o'clock in the night near the Osage River. 25th, crossed the Osage early, moving due south; met the enemy, and after repeated charges, which were kept up until 3 p. m., in which I lost 1 man killed

and 8 wounded, moved on to Fort Scott. Here we remained until the morning of the 27th, when we again set out in a southwest direction, reaching Spring River near Carthage at 11 p. m., making a distance of sixty-two miles. On the 28th marched thirty miles to Newtonia. Found General Blunt warmly engaged with the enemy. My regiment was dismounted, and after marching one mile through fields found that the enemy had disappeared. It being then dark we bivouacked for the night. On the 29th marched to Spring River, thirty miles. On the 30th passed through Mount Vernon on to Little York, and on the 31st arrived at Springfield, after an absence of thirty-four days, marching a distance of about 700 miles. It would be impossible to mention the gallantry of individuals of my command without doing injustice to others. With few exceptions officers and men did their duty.

Below is appended a list of the killed and wounded in the various engagements, commencing with the battle at Boonville and ending at the Osage.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN F. McMAHAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. WILLIAM T. KITTREDGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 39.

Report of Maj. William Plumb, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. SIXTH CAVALRY MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Springfield, Mo., November 12, 1864.

GENERAL: In compliance with Special Orders, No. 260, I moved on the morning of the 27th of September, 1864, with my battalion, consisting of 198 men. On the morning of the 2d of October Captain Moore came up and reported for duty at Saint James with thirty-one men, swelling the number of my battalion to 229 rank and file. Proceeded east as far as Cuba, where we changed direction and marched directly for Jefferson City. On the evening of the 4th Private Henry J. Carter was mortally wounded by accidental shot near Vienna, Mo. On the evening of the 6th commenced skirmishing with the enemy's advance six miles south of Jefferson City. During the night fell back to the Moreau. On the morning of the 7th I was ordered by Colonel Gravely to hold the ford leading across this stream (the Moreau) at all hazards, until the Eighth Missouri State Militia should all cross to the north side. I directed Major Murphy to take a position on the bank of the stream covering the road; he there threw up temporary breast-works and made a good defense. The Eighth gradually fell back, heroically contesting every inch of ground, until the enemy's advance came in range of the guns of Fort Murphy, from which a destructive fire temporarily checked their advancing columns; they soon, however, deployed right and left, crossing the stream, and were seriously threatening my flanks, when Colonel Gravely ordered me to fall back to a line that was forming on the hill. The enemy pressed rapidly forward, pouring a deadly fire on my left flank from the brush. The order was finally given to fall back, which was done in good order. The loss sustained by my battalion in this engagement was 2 men wounded mortally, 1 severely, 1 slightly.

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*Embodied in Sanborn's table, p. 393.

Jefferson City, October 8, the enemy [has withdrawn] and a pursuit is ordered. On the morning of the 9th the enemy's rear was overtaken, and skirmishing continued throughout the day. Lieut. Riley B. Riggs fell while heroically leading a charge upon the enemy's skirmishing line. He was a brave and valiant officer, and fell while in discharge of his duties; his loss is deeply regretted by all who knew him. This pursuit was continued on through California to Boonville, where the rebels made a stand, and considerable skirmishing ensued. My battalion were all engaged throughout the fight. Five men wounded slightly. On the morning of the 20th I proceeded to Dover, under command of Colonel Phelps; we entered the town with a whoop, encountered 500 or 600 rebels, scattering them in every direction, killing 2, wounding several, and took 14 prisoners, 5 of them commissioned officers. On our return Lieutenant Clevenger, commanding the rear guard, encountered six rebels, killed 2 and wounded 2; the former he believed were officers. My battalion were all deployed in line on the 22d at Independence, but did not generally participate in the fight at that place. On the evening of that day, while attempting to join the brigade with Company B, I lost my way and became detached, and consequently did not participate in the glorious fight of Big Blue. On the 23d Major Murphy, at the head of the remainder of the battalion, charged the enemy's lines twice, inflicting considerable chastisement on the rebels. The loss in this engagement was 1 killed, 2 mortally wounded, 5 severely, and 3 slightly. On the morning of the 24th pushed forward rapidly, encountered the enemy's pickets at 11 p. m., and skirmished with them until day. In the dusk of the morning Colonel Gravely ordered my battalion to drive the enemy's pickets from the hill they had occupied during the night. Captains Stall, McGee, and Lankford successfully led their respective squadrons up the precipitous slopes and took possession of the hill. My battalion shared all the dangers and glories with the brigade in the fights of this day, and also at Newtonia, without further loss. Both officers and men, of which I have had the honor to command, did their duty nobly here.

I would consider this report incomplete without an expression of my acknowledgments for the very gentlemanly and courteous [manner] in which I have been treated by your staff during the campaign.

Total casualties sustained by the battalion, 2 killed, 5 mortally wounded, 6 severely, and 9 slightly.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. PLUMB,

Major Sixth Missouri Militia Cavalry.

[General JOHN B. SANBORN.]

No. 40.

Report of Maj. William B. Mitchell, Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *November 3, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: In accordance with instructions I herewith forward you a report of the transactions, &c., of a detachment of the Seventh Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, under my command in the pursuit of late rebel raid into Missouri.

We left Springfield on the morning of the 27th of September, with detachments from Company A, commanded by Lieutenant Montgomery; Company C, commanded by Lieutenant Boyd; Company D, commanded by Captain Sutherland; Company H, commanded by Lieutenant Brown; Company I, commanded by Captain Howard; Company L, commanded by Captain Burns, amounting in the aggregate to 240 men. We moved to Lebanon and camped. 28th, left Lebanon and marched to Waynesville. 29th, left Waynesville and marched to Rolla. 30th, in camp all day at Rolla. October 1, left Rolla; marched to Saint James on the southwest branch Pacific Railroad. 2d, my battalion and the Second Arkansas Cavalry marched down the railroad as far as Cuba and returned to Saint James. 3d, left Saint James and marched to Cuba. 4th, left Cuba and marched to Vienna. 5th, left Vienna and marched to the Moreau Creek, four miles south of Jefferson City. 6th, remained in camp on the Moreau until about 10 p. m., when my battalion was ordered two miles southeast of headquarters, at a lower ford of the Moreau, to guard that passage. 7th, about 9 a. m. we observed men upon the south side of the Moreau, but could not for some time determine who they were; at 10 a. m. they made themselves known to us by throwing shells into our midst. I then fell back from the ford of the river, they continuing to shell us for a distance of about two or three miles. When within about one mile of the city we fell in with the rear of our brigade, which was then falling back into the city, skirmishing with the enemy. We moved into the city, having met with no casualties except the slight wounding of Isaac W. Kellar, of Company D, who was struck with a spent ball in the left side. After my arrival into the city I was ordered to take command of Fort Miller, into which my battalion was placed. 8th, we left Jefferson City at 3 p. m. and marched ten miles west of the city. 9th, marched about two miles, when we came upon the enemy's pickets, my battalion being in front. We skirmished with them some two or three miles, killing several of them. Our casualties were few, only losing 1 man, wounded, from Company D, viz, James T. Burnes, being shot in the arm and left side. Camped to-night at California. 10th, we marched from California and camped within about twelve miles of Boonville. 11th, my battalion is in the rear of the brigade. We marched until about 10 a. m., when we reached the La Mine bridge, on the La Mine River, when my battalion was dismounted and formed in line of battle, in which position we remained until about 5 p. m., when we moved back from the bridge about two miles and camped. 12th, moved from camp to California. 13th, left California and marched in the direction of Boonville. When within fifteen miles of that place we changed our course in the direction of Georgetown; camped at Pilot Grove. 14th, marched fourteen miles northwest of Georgetown and camped. 15th, we left camp and after a march of about thirteen miles camped at Cook's Store. 16th, remained in camp to-day at Cook's Store. 17th, marched toward Georgetown; camped on Blackwater. 18th, remained in camp on Blackwater all day. 19th, marched back to Cook's Store and camped. 20th, marched to Davis' Creek, about nine miles from Lexington, and camped. 21st, marched within two miles of Lexington and there changed our course toward Independence; camped about twenty miles from Independence, on the Little Blue. 22d, marched within about one mile and a half of Independence, when the skirmishing commenced in front. We were dismounted and thrown in position on the right as a reserve for the Fourth Brigade. The enemy fell back from the front of the Fourth Brigade for about four miles west of Independence, where we bivouacked

for the night. 23d, left camp, being placed on the extreme left wing of the brigade and in the rear of the Second Arkansas Cavalry, where we were held in position until the center had driven the enemy back. We were then moved upon the field, and after a few hours' rest marched to Little Santa Fé and camped. 24th, left Little Santa Fé and marched about seventy miles, camping in front of the enemy on the Marais des Cygnes. 25th, marched to the Marais des Cygnes and dismounted. We were then thrown out as skirmishers on the right of the brigade, driving the enemy from the creek bottom. We were then mounted and marched up into the prairie about three miles, where we halted and fed. Philips' and Winslow's brigades were thrown to the front; the fighting then becoming general we were ordered to the front. On arriving on the battle-ground I was ordered to pursue a train of the enemy and was followed by the brigade, thereby being thrown in the front. The brigade was then ordered to form a line of battle, which was done, my battalion being on the right. We marched in this manner for about one mile, when we were again thrown into column and marched about one mile, when we were again drawn up in line of battle and ordered to charge the enemy in the timber on the Little Osage, which we did, driving the enemy from the timber. After effecting a crossing of the creek and reforming we charged the enemy for about four miles, driving from their position four lines of the enemy's cavalry. We then moved to Fort Scott, having assisted in charging and routing the enemy without the loss of a single man. We camped for the night in Fort Scott. 26th, remained at Fort Scott. 27th, left Fort Scott and marched about sixty-five miles, camping on the north fork of Spring River. 28th, left camp and marched to Newtonia. On arriving at Newtonia we found General Blunt with a portion of his forces engaging the enemy, but was being forced to fall back. We were immediately ordered to dismount and form on the left of the Sixth Missouri State Militia. We checked the enemy and then forced them to fall back a distance of about one mile and a half. We held our lines until about 10 p. m., when we were ordered to bivouac for the night at Newtonia. 30th, left camp and moved to Little York, ten miles west of Springfield, and camped. 31st, left camp and marched into Springfield about 12 o'clock, having marched during the campaign about 1,000 miles, assisted in driving the rebels out of the State, and only lost two men wounded.

All of which, captain, I respectfully submit.

WM. B. MITCHELL,
Major, Comdg. Detach. Seventh Prov. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Capt. WILLIAM T. KITTREDGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 41.

Reports of Col. Joseph J. Gravely, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. EIGHTH CAVALRY MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Springfield, Mo., November 15, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by a detachment of the Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia in the late campaign against the rebel force under Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, from the 27th of September, 1864, to the 31st of October, 1864:

The detachment, under my command and composing a part of General Sanborn's brigade, left Springfield, Mo., on the 27th of September, 1864,

with 13 commissioned officers and 298 enlisted men, and marched to Jefferson City, Mo., via Rolla, Cuba, Vienna, and encamped on the Moreau, three miles from the city, October 5, 1864, and was directed to act in conjunction with the Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, as an advance post, and to resist the enemy advancing toward the city. On the afternoon of the 6th the pickets commenced fighting two miles south of the Moreau. The enemy was held in check, or did not attempt to advance until 6 a. m. on the 7th of October, 1864. The Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and the Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia were arranged so as to check and annoy the enemy as much as possible in their advance. The enemy advanced their line of skirmishers about 7 a. m. and attacked Squadron C of the Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, commanded by Captain Human, who resisted them stubbornly until ordered by me to fall back, the enemy having moved a strong column to his left flank. The fighting commenced at this time, the Eighth Regiment being arranged one squadron in rear of the other, and each in turn fighting the enemy until ordered to fall back. Captain Foster had his horse killed while encouraging his men to fight at the commencement of the attack. When overpowered and flanked by the enemy, the two squadrons (C and F) moved to the rear; the enemy seeing that they had compelled this move ordered a charge which soon brought them to a line formed near the edge of the timber, composed of Squadrons A, E, G, D, and K; the fight was renewed by these squadrons with energy; the officers and men fought well, driving the enemy's skirmish line, and again compelling him to bring up artillery to drive us from our strong position, as had been done in their attack on Captains Human and Foster. The Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia was then moved across the Moreau, and were relieved by the Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, posted so as to protect the crossing. The Eighth Regiment was again formed on a ridge near the Fair-Ground, and again fought the enemy stubbornly for more than one hour, assisted by the Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and in compliance with orders the command moved into Jefferson City. On the 8th of October I was placed in command of the troops from Southwest Missouri, leaving the Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia under command of Capt. R. G. Chitwood, Company G, Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

On the 9th of October one squadron of the Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, under command of Lieutenant Chitwood, assisted Major Mitchell, Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, to drive in the strong rear guard of the enemy near Russellville, Mo., seventeen miles west of Jefferson City, and did good service. The Third Brigade was not engaged in the battle at California on the evening of October 9, 1864. The battle at Boonville, on the 11th of October, was fought by the Second Arkansas Cavalry and the Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, only one squadron of the Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, being in front as body guard. Company F and — did good service and acted with coolness and bravery.

On the 20th of October I was relieved from the command of the Third Brigade by General Sanborn, and took command of my regiment. At the battle of Independence, October 22, the Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia was dismounted and marched to the right of the city as a reserve, and was not engaged during the fight. On the 23d of October, after the enemy had been driven from the crossing of the Big Blue and formed on a prairie ridge west of the stream, my regiment was ordered to move forward until we found the enemy's lines and halt until the

army came up. About 2 p. m. Major Suess, of Major-General Pleasonton's staff, ordered me, in command of my own and the Sixth Regiment Cavalry Missouri State Militia, to charge the enemy's line near a house on a prairie ridge, which was done under a most terrific [fire] from a section of the enemy's artillery in position near the above-named house, and a heavy fire of musketry from the enemy's line formed for the protection of the artillery. The enemy's force was much larger than ours, but gave way, and we gained the ridge with a loss of about 25 men. Rebel officers captured gave it as a reason for retreating that they supposed our army was moving to their left to cut them off from the force on the Harrisonville road. This charge prevented the rebels from using their artillery against the main force of our army on our right. The officers and men of my regiment did their duty well and acted bravely on this occasion. On the 24th of October I was ordered, about 11 p. m., to move my regiment and the Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia forward until I found the enemy. When near the Marais des Cygnes, a branch of the Osage, my advance was fired on by the enemy's pickets, who were found to be encamped on the stream at a village called Trading Post. I halted the command and about 3 a. m. October 25 was ordered to drive in the enemy's pickets and to attack them. I moved forward and found a strong skirmish line formed on a mound in their rear, which I immediately attacked, and, after a spirited contest, drove them beyond the mound. At the dawn of day we found the enemy in strong force near the ford of the creek, and, in conjunction with the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, attacked and drove them across the stream; this was the commencement of the battle of the Osage, October 25, 1864. After the battle was over my regiment was placed in charge of the prisoners, and delivered them at Fort Scott about daylight October 26. On the 28th of October, 1864, we reached Newtonia, Mo., where we found Major-General Blunt's command engaged with the enemy. I was ordered to move my command forward rapidly and form on the left of General Blunt's command, and aided in checking the advance of the enemy and finally driving him from the field. From Newtonia we marched to Springfield, Mo., at which place we arrived October 31, 1864.

The following are the losses sustained by the regiment in the different engagements: In the battle on the Moreau, October 7, 1864, 1 non-commissioned officer and 1 private killed, 1 captain and 14 enlisted men wounded. At the Big Blue, October 23, 1864, 1 captain and 8 enlisted men wounded. At the Marais des Cygnes, October 25, 1 enlisted man wounded. The enemy admit a loss of 1 major and 15 men killed and 1 lieutenant-colonel and 25 men wounded at the Moreau. The damage inflicted at other engagements estimated with losses sustained by them in the battles.

In conclusion, I desire to return my thanks and that of my entire command to Brigadier-General Sanborn, commanding, for his uniform kindness and the deep interest he manifested for our welfare during the arduous campaign; and also to express our gratitude to his staff for their attention on all occasions.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. GRAVELY,
Colonel Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Capt. WILLIAM T. KITTREDGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dist. of Southwest Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *November 16, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following official report of the Third Brigade, Cavalry Division, in the field from the 8th to the 20th of October, 1864:

I assumed command of the brigade at Jefferson City by your order October 8, 1864, and in compliance with your directions marched out on the Versailles road to Moreau Creek, ten miles, and encamped. On the morning of the 9th my brigade, consisting of the Second Arkansas Cavalry, Sixth Missouri State Militia, Eighth Missouri State Militia, Sixth and Seventh Provisional Regiments, with section of Battery M, Second Missouri Light Artillery, was ordered to the front and after marching two miles came up with the rear of Price's army on the road to Russellville. A strong rear guard of the enemy was left to retard the progress of our force. I deployed the Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, one company of the Eighth Missouri State Militia, and one of the Sixth Missouri State Militia as skirmishers, and attacked the enemy, driving them steadily to their main force. The fighting was spirited, and considerable damage inflicted on the enemy. The enemy formed quite a strong line to the west of Russellville, which was soon scattered by a few well-directed shots from the section of artillery brought to the front under command of Smiley, of Battery H, Second Missouri Light Artillery. The musketry fighting was kept up until one mile west of Russellville. Major Mitchell, Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, commanding line of skirmishers, conducted the fight well, and the officers and men of his command of the two companies of the Missouri State Militia troops, and Lieutenant Smiley of the battery, all did their duty and acted bravely on the occasion. Our loss during this engagement consists of Lieutenant Riggs, Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, killed while leading a charge on the rebel lines, and 3 enlisted men wounded. Lieutenant Riggs was a brave, efficient, and useful officer, and his loss is severely felt by the command. The brigade was not in front pursuing the enemy until the 11th of October. When near the La Mine Creek, five miles from Boonville, I ordered the Second Arkansas Cavalry and Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia to move forward in line of skirmishers until they found the enemy, which they came up with three miles south of Boonville, and immediately engaged him. The enemy had several thousand men in line to resist an approach, but the two regiments above mentioned drove them back to the city under protection of their artillery and fortifications. The Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia was ordered to the front, held as a reserve in rear of the skirmish line, consisting of the Second Arkansas Cavalry and Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia. Col. John E. Phelps, in command of the front line, displayed much skill and great bravery on this occasion, as did Lieutenant-Colonel McMahan, in command of the Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia. All of the officers and men of the Second Arkansas Cavalry and Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia behaved themselves nobly and fought well. Serious loss was inflicted on the enemy and he was driven with a force far inferior in number two miles. A party of the enemy while the contest was progressing near the city of Boonville moved to the rear of our front line on our right flank, but was vigorously attacked by Major Plumb's command and repulsed with heavy loss.

I was at the front and witnessed the fight, and of my own knowledge bear testimony to the bravery and skill of the different regimental commanders of the brigade on this day. I respectfully refer you to the

accompanying reports of regimental commanders for an account of the losses sustained by us in the battle. Our command the next day, the 12th, was moved back to California for rations and was again moved toward Boonville, but the enemy had left for Lexington.

No further engagements were had with the enemy until you resumed command of the brigade.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. GRAVELY,
Col. 8th Cav. M. S. M., Comdg. 3d Brig. Cav., Gen. Sanborn's Div.

[General JOHN B. SANBORN.]

No. 42.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH MISSOURI,
Glasgow, Mo., September 27, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on Monday, the 19th instant, I left Saint Joseph with Companies B and M, Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia; Companies C and D, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, and a section of mountain howitzers, Company C, Second Missouri Artillery. I moved to Macon by railroad, and on the morning of the 21st marched from Macon, my force having been augmented by Companies C and E, Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia. I camped near Huntsville on the night of the 21st and moved thence to Roanoke, where I divided the command, sending a portion direct to Fayette under Lieutenant-Colonel Draper, Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and marched with the balance of the command to this post. I had in the meantime ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Matthews, Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia, to move his entire command from Sturgeon to Rocheport, and there establish his headquarters, and directed Lieutenant-Colonel Stauber, Forty-second Missouri Volunteer Infantry, to move from Macon to Sturgeon with three companies. I also ordered General Douglass to move from Mexico toward Rocheport, with 200 of the First Iowa Cavalry Volunteers. The best information I could obtain indicated that the guerrillas, under Perkins, Quantrill, Thrailkill, Todd, Anderson, Holtzclaw, Davis, and others, were concentrating in the Perche Hills on or about the line separating Howard and Boone Counties. I made dispositions accordingly and as secretly as possible, and moved upon the haunts of the villains from Fayette, Glasgow, Sturgeon, and Mexico. The guerrillas were routed from their camps and found to be about 400 strong, under Quantrill and Perkins. On Friday evening, the 23d instant, a portion of the train of the Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia was surprised by the guerrillas ten miles northeasterly from Rocheport, and twelve men were brutally murdered after they had surrendered. Some of our dead were thrown upon the burning wagons which the fiends destroyed and their bodies were partially consumed. Our troops made but a slight resistance and fled panic-stricken from the field. They were outnumbered by the bushwhackers four to one. Perkins, the guerrilla chief, is reported severely wounded at this engagement. His pocket-book and papers were found scattered on the ground of the massacre. Had Lieutenant-Colonel

Matthews moved his command together we should have been spared this disaster; although General Douglass reports to me that the colonel ought not to be censured for his action in the premises. The guerrillas immediately scattered in every direction. Major Leonard, Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, who was moving from Fayette to Rocheport, came upon a gang of these guerrillas, and killed 6 of them, capturing 32 horses and 30 revolvers. Our only casualty was 1 wounded. Among the dead bushwhackers was a Captain Bissett, recently a terror in Platte and Clay Counties.

On Saturday morning the guerrillas from different points concentrated upon Fayette and charged into the town at 10.30 a. m., yelling like demons, their advance being clad in Federal uniform. They were properly welcomed by the small force in garrison and most handsomely whipped after three unsuccessful attempts to dislodge our troops. Thirteen of the villains were killed outright and — so severely wounded that they died on Saturday night. One rebel captain, name not known, was among the dead. Their wounded numbered 30, judging from the carriages stolen to remove them. We are daily learning of the death of some one of the wounded. Our loss was 1 killed and 2 wounded. I had on the same day ordered Major King, Thirteenth Cavalry Missouri Volunteers, from this post to Fayette, with 200 well-appointed men. He arrived at Fayette two hours after the discomfited rascals had left in the direction of Roanoke, and pushed on after them without delay. On Sunday, the 25th instant, the brigands sat down in the front of Huntsville, and in the name of Colonel Perkins and the Southern Confederacy demanded a surrender. The militia stationed at Huntsville, under Lieutenant-Colonel Denny, showed fight, and, Major King being close after the villains, they moved toward Renick, tearing down the telegraph wires by the mile. Major King pursued them as rapidly as possible with his jaded horses, and at last advices, 1.30 p. m. Monday, the 26th, was very near them at Middle Grove, in Monroe County. Several stragglers from the guerrillas have been captured and summarily mustered out. Lieutenant-Colonel Draper, with a detachment of the Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, moved from Fayette toward Renick on the 26th instant, General Douglass, with the Iowa troops, toward Sturgeon, scouting through the Perche Hills, and will unite or co-operate with Major King. In several small skirmishes with the bushwhackers on Saturday and Sunday our troops were successful in killing the buskwhackers. No better region than this could be selected for guerrilla warfare. The topography of the country and the hearts and consciences of the people are adapted to the hellish work. There is scarcely a family but what has its representative in either Price's invading force or in the corps de bush. Men and women of wealth and position give their entire influence and aid to the knights of the bush. The hand of the Government must be laid heavily upon them. I shall remain in this section and on the North Missouri Railroad until affairs are in a better condition.

I expect a full report of the Keytesville disaster to-day. Cowardice and treason combined caused the loss of Keytesville and the brutal murder of Mr. Carman, one of the best of citizens, and of William Young, an aged loyalist, serving faithfully as a Federal scout himself and had three sons in the Union army. The fiends murder none but radical Union men, while conservatives of undoubted loyalty are spared in property and person. The radicals are hunted from their homes, and their substance appropriated and destroyed. Our troops being chiefly from the radical portion of the community, it is with great difficulty

they are restrained from depredations upon the class favored by the bushwhackers. I will promptly and vigorously urge the people to a response to your admirable General Orders, No. 176. You have struck the keynote. Let the masses rise up in their strength and give an exhibition of their devotion to loyalty and the Union, and Price will never again invade Missouri with his thieving horde. I am placing every county court-house in as safe condition as possible, but there are so many towns to protect, so many railway bridges, stations, and trains constantly exposed to attack, capture, and destruction by the fiends, that we must expect serious trouble in that direction. I will keep you posted daily of movements in the district.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. Gen. W. S. ROSECRANS,
Commanding Dept. of the Missouri, Saint Louis, Mo.

GLASGOW, *September 27, 1864.*

The train on the North Missouri Railroad, bound north from Saint Louis to-day, was captured at Centralia Station by Bill Anderson and his friends. Twenty-one soldiers were taken therefrom and shot. The passengers were robbed and the train set on fire, and put in motion toward Allen. The villains were secreted about the railway depot and had been there, ready, an hour when the train came up. They had the citizens of the town under guard, thereby preventing intelligence of their presence being communicated to the approaching train. Perkins and Thrailkill were reported as co-operating with Anderson, being near by and in sight of the depot. General Douglass, Lieutenant-Colonel Draper, Major Leonard, and Major King are each in that neighborhood, with an aggregate of 600 troops, and some of them ought to fall upon the villains. More than half of this murdering party are young men from Boone County, fed, protected, and encouraged by many of the citizens of this region. We have troops at all the telegraph stations, but it is impossible to guard all stations with the forces at our command. A few of these barbarians can capture, rob, and burn a train at any of the way-stations.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Saint Louis, Mo.

GLASGOW, *September 28, 1864—10.25 a. m.*

Major Johnston, Thirty-ninth Missouri Volunteers, with a detachment of this command, engaged the guerrillas at Centralia yesterday at 3 p. m. A sharp, severe fight ensued, with considerable loss on both sides. Particulars are not yet received. Major Johnston reported killed. Colonel Draper, Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, with 300 men, was marching rapidly toward Centralia at 5 o'clock yesterday evening. At midnight General Douglass was moving in the same direction with 150 men. Major King is in the same neighborhood with 200 men. The guerrillas are said to have numbered 600 last night, and

increasing every hour. From reliable rebel sources we learn their plan was to destroy trains and bridges on the railroad, thereby drawing our forces in that direction, then scatter, take Columbia, Fayette, Glasgow, and Rocheport, plunder and burn them, cross the river between Boonville and Rocheport. I am organizing citizens for defense as rapidly and thoroughly as possible.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH MISSOURI,
Macon, December 8, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that on the 30th day of September last, being then at Glasgow, Howard County, I received a telegram from the major-general commanding, directing me to move to Jefferson City with all possible dispatch. The troops of my command were at that date scattered through the counties lying between the Hannibal and Saint Joseph Railroad and the Missouri River, fighting the hordes of fiendish guerrillas who, under Anderson, Todd, Thrailkill, Perkins, and Holtzclaw, were making a pathway of blood across the district, plundering and burning the property of Union citizens, and destroying railway trains, depot buildings, and bridges. Seventy commissioned officers from Price's army had already been sent into North Missouri to gather up the recruits that had been enlisted in the rebel service during the summer. Colonel Peery, of Carroll County, chief of the rebel recruiting party, was killed by Colonel Shanklin, Thirtieth Enrolled Missouri Militia, on the 28th of September; three of his officers shared his fate. Official papers taken from their dead bodies indicated their mission. Immediately upon receiving orders to move to Jefferson City I dispatched messengers to the several detachments of my available troops, ordering them to proceed direct to Jefferson City without delay. Detachments of the Third and Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, First Iowa Cavalry Volunteers, Thirty-ninth, Forty-third, and Forty-ninth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and one section of Company C (small howitzers), Second Missouri Artillery, were thus ordered. Telegraph lines being destroyed and mail lines almost altogether interrupted, orders were dispatched by messengers, who in many instances were captured by the enemy. I arrived in Jefferson City on the night of October 3, with 200 men of my command. During the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th other detachments of my troops arrived, aggregating 1,800, of whom 1,000 were composed of companies of unorganized infantry regiments who had never been drilled an hour. I found on my arrival at Jefferson City that Brigadier-General Brown occupied the city and held the country to the Osage River, his force all told being 3,000, one half of whom were unorganized infantry volunteers, Enrolled Missouri Militia, and citizen guards. I did not assume immediate command on arrival at Jefferson City, as telegrams from the major-general commanding indicated that himself or other officers ranking myself would speedily arrive. I therefore directed my troops to report to General Brown for orders and devoted my personal attention to the concentration of troops from my district at Jefferson City, and pushing them to the work in the trenches or to the front as rapidly as possible.

On the morning of the 6th Generals McNeil and Sanborn reported from Rolla—the former with 1,000 cavalry and eight pieces of artillery, the latter with 1,400 cavalry. The major-general commanding telegraphed me on the 6th to assume command of the combined forces at Jefferson City. I immediately organized the force into four brigades, under Generals Brown, McNeil, and Sanborn, and Col. Franklin W. Hickox, Enrolled Missouri Militia. The effective strength of the fragments of commands thus hastily thrown together from different districts of the department, including Enrolled Missouri Militia and loyal citizens, was, of officers and men, 7,200. Generals McNeil and Sanborn, who had for many days been in immediate proximity to the enemy, informed me that Price's army numbered not less than 20,000 men, and that he could put 15,000 well appointed veterans and more than twenty pieces of artillery into action. The major-general commanding had previously ordered that the State capital must be successfully defended at all hazards. A force of 1,500, under Colonel Philips, Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, was fighting the advance of Price's army on the Osage when I assumed command. The enemy were at that time crossing the Osage River in force at Prince's, Bolton's, and other fords, covering a space of about eight miles in width on the routes leading to the State capital. General Sanborn's mounted troops were resisting the advance of the enemy on the road leading from the Fair-Ground to the Moreau and Osage. The force at the front were ordered to vigorously contest the passage of the Osage and Moreau, and when driven to fall back fighting to the city and withdraw to the intrenchments. General McNeil's brigade was assigned to the right, General Brown's to the left, and General Sanborn's to the center, within our fortified lines. Colonel Hickox's brigade was posted as a reserve. All troops not ordered to the front and the citizens of the city were busily engaged digging rifle-pits and preparing for the best possible defense of the State capital. On the morning of the 7th the enemy had driven our advanced lines back to the Moreau and appeared in heavy force on its east bank, his main column on the Bolton road, and drove our troops steadily to the Fair-Ground. Our force was all withdrawn to the intrenchments at 1 p. m. The enemy pushed his lines to the front of our left and center and opened on our fortified lines with his artillery from a wooded height at the left of the Fair-Ground. Thurber's battery, on the left of our line, and Sutter's, in the center, both of the Second Missouri Artillery, simultaneously poured their well-directed shots into the enemy's artillery, dismounting one of his pieces at the first fire. After an exchange of a few shots, and an inspection of our earth-works, the enemy withdrew his artillery, retired his lines, and moved his columns toward our right, with the evident design of investing the city. During the night of the 7th our entire command were busily engaged strengthening our earth-works, digging additional rifle-pits, and preparing to receive an assault at any point on our line. The movements of the enemy during the night indicated his preparation to mass his force to assault our right.

At daylight on the morning of the 8th he appeared in force in front of McNeil, but withdrew before advancing near our earth-works. As the enemy retired and a reconnaissance to the Moreau revealed the fact that his entire army had passed to our right, the mounted troops of Sanborn's brigade were thrown upon his rear, killing many and capturing a large number of men and arms. At 8 a. m. all the mounted troops of the command were ordered in pursuit of the enemy with five days' field rations in their haversacks and 140 rounds of ammunition,

The capital of the State had been saved from the polluting presence of her traitorous sons in arms. One of the chief objects of Price's invasion of Missouri, the seizure and occupancy of her political capital for the purpose of holding elections and the transaction of other business by the itinerating traitors who style themselves the State and legislative departments of Missouri, was, by the courage, industry, and determination of our small force at Jefferson City, defeated; a substantial success had been gained, and the soldiers who through one of the severest of equinoctial storms made long and forced marches to the capital, many of them leaving their own homes to certain destruction by the guerrillas, and the citizens who so cheerfully and earnestly seized spade or musket for its defense, deserve and will receive the gratitude of the loyalists of Missouri. I have the honor to bear full and hearty testimony to the conduct of all officers and men and citizens for their faithful service.

The reports of Generals Brown, McNeil, and Sanborn, forwarded direct to department headquarters, will give tabular statements of losses in killed and wounded, and list of prisoners lost and captured.

At 10.30 a. m. on the morning of the 8th Major-General Pleasonton arrived at Jefferson City, and in obedience to orders from the major-general commanding assumed command.

I have the honor to be, colonel, with great respect, your obedient servant,

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Col. JOHN V. DU BOIS,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of the Missouri, Saint Louis.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH MISSOURI,
Macon, Mo., December 16, 1864.

Col. JOHN V. DU BOIS,
Chief of Staff, Saint Louis, Mo.:

COLONEL: In obedience to instructions from Major-General Rosecrans I have the honor herewith to transmit supplementary report of operations of the troops of my command subsequent to being relieved by Major-General Pleasonton, October 8.

I have the honor, colonel, to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH MISSOURI,
Macon, Mo., December 8, 1864.

COLONEL: Supplementary to my report on the movements of my command to Jefferson City and the operations of the troops in defense of the State capital, I have the honor to add that immediately upon the assumption of command by Major-General Pleasonton, on the 8th of October, 1864, I was by him first ordered to assume command of the Thirty-ninth and Forty-ninth Missouri Infantry Volunteers and immediately occupy that portion of the intrenched line then held by Brigadier-General Sanborn. At a later hour in the day I was ordered to proceed with my command via the Missouri River and garrison the post of Lexington.

The steamers Sioux City and Hattie May were placed at my disposal for the transportation of my command, one section of Sutter's battery, Second Missouri Artillery, having been directed to report to me. I suggested to the major-general commanding that it would undoubtedly be impracticable for me to reach Lexington via the Missouri River; that the rebel army would probably occupy Boonville before steamers could possibly reach that point, and respectfully requested that in the event of finding the enemy in force on the river-bank I might be permitted to disembark my troops, return the steamers to Jefferson City, and march my command to Glasgow, where I could concentrate additional force from my district and resist the progress of Price's army into North Missouri. General Pleasonton replied that he thought there would be no difficulty in executing the orders I had received, and directed that in the event of finding the river blockaded I should report to him the impracticability of proceeding by river and wait instructions. I embarked my command on the night of the 8th and at daylight on the morning of the 9th pushed out for Lexington. The exceedingly low stage of water rendered our progress difficult and slow. It became necessary to disembark the troops and horses at sand-bars and then spar the empty transports over. By the utmost diligence we were able to make but eighteen miles distance during the 9th. Upon arriving at Rocheport at noon on the 10th I met citizens fleeing from Boonville with the information that the enemy had occupied Boonville in large force on the previous day. I immediately took steps to secure reliable information by sending scouts of my own men who were familiar with the country on both sides the Missouri River to Boonville. Their report confirmed the presence of Price with his entire army at Boonville. His camps extended down the south side of the river six miles and his artillery commanded the Missouri. He had captured a steam ferry-boat in good order and was on that day crossing a large cavalry force to the north side of the river into Howard County. Large parties of the enemy were moving through the country stealing horses and clothing and giving notice to willing conscripts that they must report without delay to Price, the rebel chieftain, at Boonville.

On the night of the 10th the Forty-fifth Missouri Infantry Volunteers, Col. T. A. Switzler, and Capt. F. William Fuchs, with two sections Battery C, Second Missouri Artillery, reached Rocheport by steamers, under orders from Major-General Pleasonton to garrison the post of Boonville. On the morning of the 11th I sent Lieut. W. T. Clarke, aide-de-camp, to Jefferson City with dispatches to General Pleasonton, informing him of the situation, and again suggested that I be permitted to march my command across the country from Rocheport to Glasgow, and resist the crossing of the enemy to North Missouri. At Glasgow was a large quantity of quartermaster and commissary stores, and a limited garrison. Col. Chester Harding, jr., Forty-third Regiment Missouri Volunteers, had by my order left Saint Joseph on 5th of October en route to Jefferson City by steamer West Wind, and no intelligence had been received from them since passing Kansas City. I desired to reach Glasgow and save the garrison at that point, and to so dispose my command that it could be re-enforced by the troops descending the river, and by other force from the Hannibal and Saint Joseph Railroad, and I therefore respectfully, but earnestly, requested General Pleasonton to permit me to march to Glasgow. On the morning of the 12th I received orders from General Pleasonton by the hand of Lieutenant Clarke, aide-de-camp, to immediately disembark my forces at Providence, Mo., together with those of Colonel Switzler,

and send the boats immediately back to Jefferson City, and to await orders at that point. In obedience to this order I placed my command in camp at Providence, Mo., and again advised General Pleasonton of the situation. My scouts had brought me information that the enemy were crossing cavalry and artillery to the north side of the river. The fiend Bill Anderson, whose band of murderers had crossed from North Missouri to Boonville to report to their chieftain, Sterling Price, had by said chief on the 11th been ordered to recross the Missouri River and renew his fiendish atrocities; especially was he ordered to permanently destroy the North Missouri Railroad. Scouts reported detachments of the enemy marching on Fayette, Glasgow, and Huntsville. On the morning of the 13th I received orders from General Pleasonton to move my command by the north bank of the Missouri River to Jefferson City, and to report my arrival at that point to his headquarters by letter. I reached Jefferson City at noon of the 14th, reported by letter, as directed, and was ordered to march my command to California, and upon my arrival at that point to report by letter or telegraph to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding Right Wing, Sixteenth Army Corps, for orders. General Smith being yet at Jefferson City directed me to place my men in camp, and wait orders from himself or the department commander, who that day arrived at Jefferson City. On the 16th I was ordered by Major-General Rosecrans to return to my district with the Forty-ninth Missouri Volunteers, and such other troops belonging to my district as could be relieved from duty at Jefferson City. On the night of the 16th this order was countermanded, and I was directed to proceed upon a reconnaissance up the Missouri River on the steamer Isabella, with 250 picked men and two pieces of artillery. At daylight on the morning of the 17th I moved up the Missouri River, arriving at Boonville in the evening, at which point information reached me that on Saturday previous, October 15, the rebels had attacked Glasgow from both sides of the river with an overwhelming force. The garrison had been re-enforced on the evening of the 13th by a portion of Colonel Harding's regiment, Forty-third Missouri Volunteers, the effective force when attacked being 550 men, including volunteers, militia, and loyal citizens, and no artillery. Colonel Harding's report, which has been forwarded to department headquarters, informs the general commanding how gallantly this small force for hours fought an entire division of Price's army, a battery of artillery being brought into action by the enemy on each side the river, and when overwhelmed, surrendered upon terms permitting our brave boys to march out of the garrison with drums beating and colors flying, and all private property of the captured to be respected. Among the officers surrendered were three of my own staff, Lieut. Col. D. J. Hynes, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, chief of cavalry; Maj. F. G. Porter, medical director, and Capt. George A. Holloway, assistant adjutant-general, the conduct of whom during the unequal conflict is noticed in a complimentary manner by Colonel Harding. The captives had been paroled by the enemy and sent across the Missouri River, and toward Boonville, under rebel escort, and were within a few miles of the city when I arrived. I immediately ordered Capt. H. S. Glaze, acting aide-de-camp, to procure all the carriages and wagons to be found in Boonville and proceed to the La Mine River to meet the wearied prisoners; the party arrived at Boonville on the morning of the 18th, where I provided for their comfort as best I could from the scanty stores in Boonville and on board the Isabella. I returned to Jefferson City on the night of the 18th and reported to the general com-

manding such facts touching the whereabouts and movements of the enemy as I had been able to gather. On the 19th I was ordered by Major-General Rosecrans to proceed with the troops of my command to La Mine bridge and take command of all troops at that point and on the railroad from California to Warrensburg. My command arrived at La Mine bridge on the 21st and immediately commenced rebuilding the bridge at that and other points, and in one week re-opened the Pacific Railroad from Jefferson City to Warrensburg. The labor performed by troops in the reconstruction of destroyed bridges, the opening up and maintaining lines of communication, the pushing forward with promptness troops and supplies to the army at the front, is too frequently overlooked or forgotten in the recapitulation of services rendered in important campaigns.

On the 28th I reported to the major-general commanding, then at Warrensburg, and was by him ordered to return to North Missouri, via Glasgow, and reorganize my district with all possible dispatch. I moved my command from the La Mine bridge on the 29th, arrived at Glasgow November 2, and at my headquarters in Saint Joseph on the 6th, and proceeded to the organization of my district.

I am pleased to make honorable mention of the following-named staff officers, who served with me during the campaign on the south side of the Missouri River: Lieut. Col. Austin A. King, jr., Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp; Capt. H. S. Glaze, Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, assistant inspector-general and acting aide-de-camp; Lieut. William T. Clarke, aide-de-camp; Lieut. J. H. Waite, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp, and Lieut. Thomas J. Tidswell, Forty-fourth Missouri Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general. Lieutenant Clarke, aide-de-camp, is entitled to special commendation for the energy and zeal he devoted to the concentration of troops from the District of North Missouri for the salvation of the State capital. Brigadier-General Douglass, Enrolled Missouri Militia, commanding Eighth Military District of Missouri, rendered valuable service in concentrating and forwarding troops.

During my absence from the district bands of guerrillas, detached from Price's main force, were sent by their chief into North Missouri to murder Unionists and burn their substance, and to destroy railway depots and bridges. The Enrolled Missouri Militia of the district responded promptly to the call made upon them, and generally rendered most excellent service in beating back the robber horde.

The militia garrison at Paris, Monroe County, under command of Captain Fowkes, with 100 men, was surrendered to a superior force of the enemy. Officers and men were sworn not to bear arms against the rebels; horses, arms, and private property were stolen and carried away. The post of Carrollton, under command of Maj. George Deagle, Sixty-fifth Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, with 160 men, was similarly surrendered on the 17th of October. The surrendered officers were paroled on the spot; the men were marched to the south side of the Missouri River near Waverly, and all paroled but six, who were brutally murdered and thrown by the wayside. The bodies of the victims were discovered, identified, and removed to Carroll County for burial.

The Enrolled Missouri Militia of Daviess and Ray Counties, commanded by Lieut. Col. S. P. Cox, attacked Bill Anderson and fiends at Albany, Ray County, on the 27th [26th] day of October and gained a signal victory. Among the slain was Anderson, the murderer chieftain, who for months had been a terror to Unionists in Central and North Missouri. The heart would sicken and the mind recoil at the recital and contemplation

of his most barbarous atrocities. He declared himself to be operating under orders from Sterling Price, and by the official recognition of Anderson by Price at Boonville, October 11, and from equally indubitable evidence that Holtzclaw, Perkins, Thrailkill, and other guerrilla leaders were also under orders from Price, there can be no doubt but that the rebel authorities sent the villains to Missouri to murder our loyal people and to steal or destroy their property. A large number of disloyalists residing in the Missouri River counties of this district, who had been during the spring and summer of the year enlisted and organized into companies for the rebel service through the instrumentality of the O. A. K. societies, reported to Price as his plundering horde moved leisurely across the State. I have taken the necessary steps to procure a carefully prepared list of all who from this district have, during the year 1864, joined themselves to the Confederates under Price, or have been attached to his more intolerable and wicked organizations within the district. Many who were deluded into the belief that the rebels were to "hold and occupy" Missouri, since the expulsion of Price by the combined forces of Missouri and Kansas, are deserting from their retreating chief and returning upon us with a well-told tale of conscription. Of the 5,000 rebels who went to Price from this district 4,990 were doubtless cheerful volunteers, and they and theirs, and all who aid, comfort, feed, conceal, and inform them, should go out from among us, and all the loyal people will say amen.

I have the honor to be, colonel, with great respect, your obedient servant,

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Col. JOHN V. DU BOIS,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Missouri, Saint Louis.

No. 43.

Report of Lieut. Col. Dennis J. Hynes, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, Chief of Cavalry, District of North Missouri.

BRUNSWICK, MO., *September 26, 1864.*

GENERAL: In accordance with Special Field Orders, No. 2, headquarters District of North Missouri, of date Glasgow, September 23, 1864, to investigate and report upon the late disgraceful surrender of Keytesville, Mo., I have the honor to submit the following report:

Keytesville, the county seat of Chariton County, on the 20th day of September, 1864, was commanded by Second Lieut. Anthony Pleyer, Company I, Thirty-fifth Enrolled Missouri Militia, in the absence of First Lieut. Berry Owen, of same company (who had absented himself from his command without authority some time previous), under orders from Col. W. E. Moberly, commanding Chariton County militia, "to command the post and defend it against all attacks, and to protect the neighborhood." On the morning of the 20th instant the garrison, consisting of twenty-five effective and ten non-effective men, were surrendered by Lieutenant Pleyer to one John Thrailkill, who called himself "major, commanding recruits," whose force consisted of sixty-five men by actual count of some of the citizens. The circumstances attending the surrender are set forth in the following deposition of Lieutenant Pleyer.*

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* See inclosure No. 3, p. 428.

After the surrender the Stars and Stripes were torn down from the court-house, and Thrailkill's address to the surrendered militia in glorification of the flag of the so-called Confederate States was greeted by applause and cheering and cries of "bully," &c. The citizens were plundered indiscriminately of their horses, arms, and money, but in many instances the money was returned to the owners by the officers in command of these outlaws. The only men of active loyalty in Keytesville at that time (Robert Carman and William Young) were marched out a short distance from the town and shot. Inquiries were made for some others with the assurance, if found, they would hang to the nearest tree, but they had escaped to the brush and are for the time safe. I am entirely satisfied that Lieutenant Pleyer should be held responsible with his life for this disaster, being credibly informed by persons familiar with its strength that the court-house (destroyed on that morning) could have been held by ten brave men against any force that could have been brought against it. In his deposition he avers that his men would have fired had he commanded them to do so, but the threat made that if he did not surrender they would kill his "last man," seems to have paralyzed the poor, miserable poltroon with fear, and consequently he surrendered up the post without firing a shot. Lieutenant Pleyer is a poor German, living in this county, totally unfit in every respect to have the command of men, and I cannot but consider an officer who could place such a man on duty, except as a private soldier, censurable in a high degree. I therefore recommend the arrest of Lieut. Berry Owen for this cause, and for absenting himself from his command without authority. One of the men who was so wantonly murdered was a Mr. Robert Carman, sheriff of Chariton County, and from what I can learn from his neighbors and the residents of the county generally, "the very best man" in it. He was but recently from a sick bed, was some sixty-five years of age, was forced to march about half a mile from town, when he was shot through the head, just above the left cheek bone, killing him instantly. Mr. William Young was also a citizen of considerable repute latterly, and about the same age as Mr. Carman. Both gentlemen leave families, and I would urge a tax of $10,000 be levied for benefit of the heirs of the former, and $5,000 for the latter, upon the disloyal people of the county; also a tax of some $35,000 to rebuild the court-house.

On arriving at Brunswick I was struck with the alarm depicted upon the countenances of the soldiers and citizens. There appeared to be no discipline whatever, no order, nor soldierly bearing amongst the troops. I informed Col. W. E. Moberly, the commanding officer of my business at his post, and was assured that he would facilitate as far as in his power the investigation I was about to make. At this post there are represented four companies of the Thirty-fifth Enrolled Missouri Militia, commanded and composed as follows: Company F, Captain Brawner, sixty-one men on duty, all in sympathy with the Southern rebellion (except the officers). They can, however, be relied upon to fight bushwhackers, but will not fight Confederate State soldiers, and they consider Thrailkill and his confederates as soldiers. Company G, Captain Bucksath, sixty men on duty, fifty of whom are German radicals, and can be relied upon in any emergency; and ten sympathizers with rebellion, who cannot be relied upon to fight against Confederate soldiers. This company was organized for the protection of their own homes at Bowling Green, and declare they must return there to protect them, and are consequently liable to leave here at any time. Company I, Captain Rees, twenty-five men on duty, and all in sympathy with the rebellion. This is the company which furnished

the surrender of Keytesville, and some of whose number joined the bushwhackers and marched away with them. They cannot be relied upon at all. Company B, Captain Stanley, six men on duty, all loyal and reliable. This company has furnished nearly all of its number to Colonel Forbes' twelve-months regiment of U. S. Volunteers. There are seventy-five citizens under the command of Captain Cunningham, about half of whom can be relied upon in any emergency, who are neither soldiers nor militia and are only called upon occasionally. Thus it will be seen that the total force, including the citizens' company, consists of 227 men, 93 of whom can be depended upon, and 134 whom it is very much feared are anxiously awaiting an opportunity to deliver up the post to their avowed friends, the rebel enemies of the Government. Should Bucksath's company return to Bowling Green there would not remain a loyal man in this neighborhood, as all their hopes for life are centered in them. And from my own observation, with a sufficient cause, with one company of soldiers and an officer to command, I should consider this post safe, and unless it can be sent here soon, I earnestly recommend the withdrawal of all Government stores now here, in order that they may not fall into the hands of the first party of armed rebels who may pass this way and want them.

I find that the men of undoubted loyalty are averse to affiliating with the disloyal militia, lest they may be surrendered by them and turned over to the guerrillas and bushwhackers, to share the same fate that has befallen all loyal men who have been unfortunate enough to fall into their hands. This feeling has so firmly ingrafted itself upon their minds that I think one of the chief sources of danger at this post is a want of determination of every one in authority to do battle against any foe until a victory is won, occasioned by a general distrust of the men. This, notwithstanding I consider the officers undoubtedly loyal. From these and other causes it has been the experience in this county that the legitimate results of arming disloyal men in communities where they preponderate so vastly is to hunt loyalty from the country and compel it to exist wholly by stealth.

While I cannot blame Colonel Moberly or any of his officers in command here (except for lack of proper discipline) for the unsettled state of the country, I unhesitatingly recommend that the Thirty-fifth Enrolled Missouri Militia be immediately disbanded and, if possible, replaced by 100 soldiers, and authority be given to raise a company of loyal men in the town for the protection of the town, which I consider would establish loyalty on a firm basis and send rebellion and bushwhacking either into the brush or into eternity, where it belongs.

Trusting that this report will prove satisfactory, I am, general, with high regards, your obedient servant,

D. J. HYNES,
Chief of Cavalry, District of North Missouri.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri, in the Field.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. THIRTY-FIFTH REGT. ENROLLED MISSOURI MIL.,
Brunswick, Mo., September 26, 1864.

GENERAL: The investigation, under Special Field Orders, No. 2, having been concluded by Colonel Hynes, and the result thereof reported to you, I think I may safely make some suggestions with reference to my command without being adjudged guilty of an attempt to frustrate any action that may be taken upon said report.

My command has been largely reduced recently by enlistments in the U. S. service, discharges for cause, sickness, and desertion, without including the captures made at Keytesville. Captain Stanley reports only eleven men remaining for duty; Captain Brawner's company has been reduced to eighty-one men, about sixty-five of whom are present for duty; Captain Rees' company, out of which the capture at Keytesville was made, numbers about fifty men, excluding captures, about twenty-five of whom are present for duty; Captain Bucksath's company numbers about eighty men, with about an average of between sixty and seventy for duty. In addition to these I have a citizens' company under Captain Cunningham, subject to be called for duty only in cases of emergency, which can muster for duty seventy-five men and upward. With this force I feel able to hold this post against any ordinary concentration of bushwhackers, a very heavy concentration being the only thing I fear, which I thought was certainly coming upon me a few days ago. Some of these companies are charged with being unwilling to fight Confederate troops, but with how much truth I am not able to say, though I feel very willing to trust them against any enemy that may come here to attack them. They have never been engaged in battle, but have been drawn up in line several times with that expectation, and have never yet refused to fight. They have performed every duty demanded of them with fidelity, and have obeyed every order with as much promptness and alacrity as could be expected of militia forces. The surrender at Keytesville shows nothing to the disparagement of the men, as Lieutenant Pleyer says they would have fought if called upon by him to do so. Some of them have said they would not fight Confederate soldiers, and when called upon for an explanation, have said they did not mean they would not fight the forces now in North Missouri, but that they were not enlisted to go down and meet the Confederate army, and therefore did not feel inclined to go if called upon. I have, at various times, anticipated an attack from Poole, Thrailkill, and Thornton, and have ordered the men to the trenches for that purpose, and I have never yet known them to shrink from their duty. They declare their determination to stand by me to the last extreme, and I shall not desert them when slanderously assailed, though I may not be able to redress the insults offered them in such a manner as they justly merit. Within the past few days they have been bitterly assailed as bushwhackers, shots have been fired at their camp from Federal muskets, their extermination threatened, their honor impeached, and their oaths assailed. Some of their officers have basely deserted them, and given statements to their discredit.

In the face of all these demoralizing circumstances, and the fact that the country is passing through a period of gloom hardly known here before, these men are still at their posts declaring their willingness to obey any order I may give them, and to fire upon any enemy I may direct. In the organization of these forces and inaugurating the line of policy I have pursued with reference to them, I have been guided by the sentiments and opinions enunciated by you in your speech at Keytesville, in the conversation I had with you there and at Saint Joseph, and in the communications I have had the honor to receive from you at various times. The sentiments and opinions have always accorded with my own and I shall carry them forward while I hold a commission or a command. The citizens of my county went into these organizations in good faith, believing that General Rosecrans meant exactly what he said, that you meant exactly what you said, and I have yet seen no evidence of bad faith on either side. My loyalty has been

assailed and my life threatened by soldiers for the part I have taken in the premises, but I am not yet persuaded that I should murder innocent men and create more widows and orphans to suffer in order to restore the standard of my loyalty in the estimation of the fanatics by whom it is impeached. In view of the dangers surrounding this post, I have thought best to ship my extra guns to you for safe-keeping, reserving here only enough to place in the hands of my men. I make no detailed report of the surrender at Keytesville, or any suggestions with reference to the needs of the county, as I presume the report of Colonel Hynes will develop all the information you desire. I am here subject to such disposal as you may deem proper to make of me, and shall hold my position until relieved or overpowered by numbers, or until my command is taken from me and my forces disbanded.

With sentiments of respect, I remain, general, your obedient servant,

WM. E. MOBERLY,
Colonel, Commanding.

General C. B. FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri, Glasgow, Mo.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

BRUNSWICK, MO., *September 27, 1864.*

SIR: On the 3d of September, 1864, by order of Col. William E. Moberly, I left Brunswick to take post at Keytesville with thirty-four men, besides Lieutenant Pleyer and myself. On the 5th of September I received a dispatch from Colonel Moberly ordering me to send him twenty-five men, with Lieutenant Pleyer, to Brunswick immediately. In obedience to that order I sent Lieutenant Pleyer with fifteen men, which was all I could possibly send. These men were kept away nearly two weeks, and only returned two days before the surrender. When Lieutenant Pleyer was absent with his squad I was left at Keytesville with only nineteen men. I then sent some of my men out to notify other members of the company who were at their homes in the county to come into camp. I was not in camp when it surrendered, having gone home on Sunday evening previous, the condition of my family requiring my presence. I should have returned on the next day, but was sick myself, and unable to travel. The next day (Tuesday) I started for camp, but had not proceeded far before I heard that the camp was taken about daylight, when I altered my course and reported at Brunswick.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BERRY OWEN,
First Lieut., Comdg. Co. I, 35th Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

General C. B. FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

Statement of Anthony Pleyer, who, being by me duly sworn, deposeth and says:

I am a citizen of Chariton County, Mo.; my rank is second lieutenant of Captain Rees' company (I), Thirty-fifth Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Question. Were you on duty with a detachment of your company at Keytesville, Mo., on the 20th day of September, 1864?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. By whose order?

Answer. Lieutenant Owen was placed there in command, and he being absent the command devolved upon me.

Question. What orders did you have?

Answer. To command the post at Keytesville, to protect the neighborhood, and defend the post against all attacks.

Question. State what occurred on the morning of the 20th day of September, 1864, at Keytesville, Mo.

Answer. Between 7 and 8 o'clock a flag of truce was brought to me, with a demand for the surrender of the post, stating that there were 250 men, under the command of Major Thrailkill, who would burn the town and kill all my soldiers if the demand was not complied with, giving me fifteen minutes' time to decide in, and granting full protection to life and property if I should surrender. I asked Mr. Robert Carman, sheriff of Chariton County, what I had better do. He inquired upon what conditions the surrender could be made, and upon being informed he replied "we can do nothing with these men" (meaning the guerrillas). I then marched my men out of the court-house, and surrendered to Major Thrailkill, he giving each man a parole.

COPY OF PAROLE.

CHARITON COUNTY, MO., *September 20, 1864.*

This is to certify that Lieutenant Pleyer and a detachment of Captain Owen's company was captured by me, and put on parole of honor not to be broken on the penalty of death.

By order of —

JOHN THRAILKILL,
Major, Commanding Recruits.

(Copy of an almost illegible pencil scrawl, badly written, and worse spelling, now in the possession of Lieutenant Pleyer.)

Question. How many men did you surrender?

Answer. Thirty-five.

Question. How many men were there in the court-house fit to bear arms when you surrendered?

Answer. Twenty-five, all of whom would have obeyed an order to fire upon the enemy if I had given one.

Question. What was said by Thrailkill when you surrendered?

Answer. He said if we had fired a gun he could not have kept his men from burning the last house in town and killing every man at the same time, pointing out to me the notorious bushwhacker Todd. Todd remarked to me that I need not consider him a Confederate officer, but that he was the bushwhacker Todd, and intended to follow bushwhacking as long as he lived.

Question. How much ammunition did you have at the time?

Answer. About 1,300 rounds.

Question. Did you ever hear any of your men say that they would not fight bushwhackers or Confederate soldiers?

Answer. I did not, and believe they would all fight.

Question. How many of your men went off with the bushwhackers?

Answer. Seven.

A. PLEYER,
Second Lieut. Company I, 35th Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 25th day of September, A. D. 1864, at Brunswick, Mo.

D. J. HYNES,
Lieut. Col. and Chief of Cav., District of North Missouri.

No. 44.

Report of Capt. George A. Holloway, U. S. Army, Assistant Adjutant-General.

JEFFERSON CITY, MO., *October 18, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to furnish for your information a few facts concerning the engagement at Glasgow, Mo., on the 15th instant, I being present at the time and en route to rejoin you, as previously ordered.

The force at Glasgow consisted of six companies of Forty-third Missouri Infantry, detachment of Companies B and M, Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia; detachment of Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry; detachment Fourth Provisional Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, and two companies of citizen militia, numbering in the aggregate about 550 men, indifferently armed, and under the command of Col. Chester Harding, jr., Forty-third Missouri Infantry. The attack was made from the south side of the river at about 5 a. m. with artillery, which firing continued until about 1 p. m. This battery of four pieces was supported by about 1,500 or 1,800 dismounted cavalry, using long-range guns and operating principally as sharpshooters. Their especial purpose appeared to be to prevent our forces from approaching the steamer West Wind, lying at the levee, and to render it impossible for us to cross and recross the streets running at right angles with the river. Their sharpshooters were successful in killing 2 or 3 men, wounding others, and shooting 1 or 2 officers' horses. Their shells destroyed or injured such buildings as were in range, especially those situated near a line of rifle-pits which had been hastily prepared by the militia the day previous, and in which the militia forces were posted. At about 7 a. m. Clark's division moved on us simultaneously from the north and on the Boonville, Fayette, and Keytesville roads, speedily dismounted and encircled the town, with their flanks resting on the river. Three pieces of cannon were interspersed along their line and in position to concentrate their fire upon the rifle-pit. Our forces were posted as follows: The detachment of Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry, commanded by Captain Mayo, on the extreme right; six companies of the Forty-third Missouri Infantry, Major Davis commanding, on the front and center, and detachment of Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, under Captain Hunter, on the left, making an extended line about one mile in length, with natural formation of the surface in our favor. The enemy advanced, skirmishing along the entire line, and in one or two instances undertook an assault, but were driven back to the shelter of houses, fences, &c. The militia and citizens in the rifle-pit aided materially in repelling the assaults referred to. A detachment of eighty five men of Ninth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, commanded by Capt. S. A. Hunter, checked the advance of Lawther's entire regiment, on the extreme left, and held them at bay until the engagement ended.

The line which was at first established had been forced back upon the right and center gradually, until at 1 o'clock the forces were separated by only the width of village lots, our boys sheltered by the front fences and the enemy firing from behind those in the rear. At this juncture the enemy was observed to be concentrating for an advance in force, which, had it been consummated, would have proved very disastrous to the tired and hungry men and a resistance avail little or nothing. Eight hours of constant and determined fighting had passed;

the buildings containing ordnance, commissary, and quartermaster stores had been fired; the steamer West Wind was disabled by shells; every line of retreat was cut off, and every road covered by their artillery fire. Further resistance seemed futile to the officer in command, who (after reviewing the condition and position of his command, and obtaining intimations from the rebel commander that he would offer honorable terms) consented to surrender the place upon the following conditions, viz: The Federal troops to form line and move to a street designated with arms and their colors flying; the private property of both officers and men to remain in their possession; officers to retain their side arms and citizens to be undisturbed either in person or property. Both officers and men had been under a constant fire for nearly eight hours, and their conduct apparently unexceptionable. Second Lieut. George F. Simmonds, Sixty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, was shot dead while leading a detachment of soldiers to a favorable position for sharpshooting. He was absent from his command (proper) upon sick leave, but volunteered to accompany Colonel Harding as his aide, and after tendering his services was ordered to report to Colonel Harding for orders and duty. Captain Steinmetz, commanding one of the militia companies, was also killed. Captain Dusold, Company A, Forty-third Missouri Infantry, was wounded in the head, but will doubtless recover. The surgeon's report shows 8 killed and 28 wounded. The enemy's loss was much larger, several officers having been killed and many officers and men wounded. The property lost consisted of arms taken from our men and about 1,000 suits of cavalry clothing, which had been temporarily left at the place by Major Curtis, aide-de-camp to Major-General Curtis, commanding Department of Kansas. It was impossible to get near this property, or it would have been burned with other public property. The enlisted men were paroled by calling their names from the company books and administering the ordinary parole oath. Officers were delivered a written parole signed by order of Brig. Gen. J. B. Clark, commanding Confederate forces. General Clark permitted us to proceed by any route we might select to the Federal forces, and accordingly crossed us over the Missouri River. We marched via Little Saline, Arrow Rock, and La Mine River to Boonville. Many citizens and non-combatants joined us in our march from rebel rule.

I must testify to the uniform, kind, and gentlemanly treatment we received at the hands of the Confederate officers, among whom were Brig. Gen. J. B. Clark, Brig. Gen. Joe Shelby, Colonels Greene, Quantrill, Jackman, Kitchen, Jeffers, Burbridge, Coleman, and Nichols, all Missourians, and most of them subordinate to Major-General Marmaduke.

No attempts were made to abandon the place either before or after the attack, positive orders from General Rosecrans having been received directing the garrison to remain there as assistance would soon be given. Under the instructions received no alternative was left but to fight whatever force might attack us, and to do the best possible thing under the circumstances. Colonel Harding's report will doubtless furnish full and official particulars and information.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully,

G. A. HOLLOWAY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Brigadier-General FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri.

No. 45.

Report of Lieut. Amos J. Harding, Sixth Missouri Cavalry, Aide-de-Camp.

SAINT JOSEPH, *October 18, 1864.*

Ridgely, Platte County, Mo., was captured and plundered by guerrillas on the night of the 16th. Smithville, Clay County, was burned last night by same band—Chiles'. Soldiers just arrived at Weston from Liberty report 500 rebels at Missouri City yesterday.

A. J. HARDING,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

Capt. FRANK ENO.
(Care Col. J. V. Du Bois.)

No. 46.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Joseph B. Douglass, Missouri State Militia.

ROCHEPORT, *September 24, 1864.*

Major Leonard with detachment of the Ninth Missouri State Militia met seven of Anderson's men yesterday, killed 6 of them, captured 7 horses and 30 revolvers. Boone and Howard Counties are full of rebels. I met them on every road from Mexico to this place.

J. B. DOUGLASS,
Brigadier-General.

General FISK, *Glasgow.*

ROCHEPORT, *September 24, 1864.*

Colonel Matthews' escort of eighty men for baggage train was surprised late yesterday evening seven miles northeast from this place. Twelve of his men were killed on the ground and quite a number are yet missing. The entire train, consisting of quartermaster and commissary stores and all his ammunition, was captured. The rebels were said to be commanded by the two Todds, Anderson, and Gooch, numbering 300 men. On receiving news of the fight, I sent the First Iowa and part of the Third Missouri to the scene of action. They arrived in the night and remained on the ground, and Colonel Draper having arrived I ordered him out at 3 o'clock this morning with 250 men, making the whole Federal force about 350. The rebels moved west into Howard County toward the river. We are out of commissary supplies; send us some by first boat.

J. B. DOUGLASS,
Brigadier-General.

Brigadier-General FISK.

FAYETTE, *September 25, 1864—11 a. m.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I left Rocheport this morning with 550 men, consisting of the First Iowa, Seventeenth Illinois, Third and Ninth Missouri State Militia. After seeing your letter to Colonel Matthews, in which you stated that you would leave Glasgow and move toward Rocheport, I determined to remain here until I heard from you, but later news received just before night, in which it was reported that this place had been captured by Thrailkill, Todd,

Anderson & Co., and was in their possession, I determined to move early this morning with my entire force and give them battle; but on my arrival here I was happily disappointed in the result of the engagement of yesterday, and from what little information I have been able to gather up our troops acted bravely and well, losing 1 man killed and 2 wounded. There are five dead rebels on the ground besides others said to be carried off, and quite a large number wounded. I will remain here until I hear from you, unless I can learn of some movement of the rebels which it is important to meet at once. I would be happy to receive orders from you by return messenger. My command are anxious to meet the enemy and get revenge for the wanton massacre of the Third Missouri State Militia. Colonel Matthews should not be censured for the disaster, as he had taken, as he thought, all necessary precautions to insure its safe arrival, and on my arrival at Rocheport, and learning from Colonel Matthews that his baggage train would be in that day, I ordered him to send out thirty cavalry to meet them, and they had just met them when the fight took place. The rebels burned all the train except the commissary and ammunition wagons, which, strange to say, were not destroyed, and we now have them in our possession. We lost 12 men killed, the bodies of whom have been found, and 3 negroes (teamsters). All the soldiers were shot in the head, showing that they had been murdered after being captured. Captain Roberts and Captain McFaden are yet out, and fears are entertained that they have been killed. I would like to have the fifty men of First Iowa Cavalry to join me before leaving this part of the county.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. DOUGLASS,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I have the pocketbook of Colonel Perkins, found on the battle-ground of the disaster to Third Missouri State Militia, and I am inclined to think he was mortally wounded.

J. B. D.,
Brigadier-General.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK, *Glasgow, Mo.*

HDQRS. EIGHTH MIL. DIST., ENROLLED MISSOURI MIL.,
Columbia, Mo., December 12, 1864.

GENERAL: In answer to yours of the 8th instant requesting a report from me of the number of casualties in the Enrolled Missouri Militia under my command during the raid of Price in Missouri, I have the honor to report that I have received no official report showing that any of my command were killed during said raid. I had some 4 or 5 wounded in different skirmishes during the time Captain Fowkes, captain Company C, Seventieth Enrolled Missouri Militia, surrendered Paris on the 15th of October. At the time of the surrender, he reports 55 men of his command and 10 of the Ninth Missouri State Militia. Lieutenant Vance, with 69 belonging to the Forty-sixth Enrolled Missouri Militia, I have been informed, surrendered at Glasgow, but of this I have received no official report.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. DOUGLASS,
Brigadier-General.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK, *Macon, Mo.*

No. 47.

Report of Brig. Gen. James Craig, Missouri State Militia.

HDQRS. SEVENTH MILITARY DISTRICT OF MISSOURI,
Saint Joseph, December 14, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant calling for a list of the killed, wounded, and captured by the Enrolled Missouri Militia in my district. I regret that the officers of the militia generally neglect to make written reports of their scouts. In the fight in which Bill Anderson was defeated and killed some 6 of his men were killed by the Daviess and Ray County militia, under Acting Lieutenant-Colonel Cox and Major Grimes. Major Pace, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, at my request, took command of 100 Enrolled Missouri Militia, and had a fight in Clay County, in which he killed 7 bushwhackers; and in an affair at Skinner's Bridge, in Platte, his command killed 2 others, one of whom was a son of Kemp Woods. Hart, a brother of the notorious Joe, was wounded and captured by a scout sent out from Stewartsville. The military prison of this city is full of prisoners taken by the Enrolled Missouri Militia, who were captured under circumstances which forbid their being shot as guerrillas; they nearly all surrendered unarmed, and claim to have been conscripted by Thornton, Thrailkill, Welden, or some other leader, and that they each deserted at the first safe opportunity, and surrendered to the nearest military commander of Union forces. Maj. E. S. Castle, jr., had a fight with the bushwhackers at Smithville, Clay County; casualties not recollected, and no report on file.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. CRAIG.

Lieut. W. T. CLARKE,
Aide-de-Camp, Macon, Mo.

No. 48.

Report of Col. Chester Harding, jr., Forty-third Missouri Infantry.

BENTON BARRACKS, *November 12, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 5th day of October, 1864, six companies (A, C, D, E, G, and H) of the Forty-third Infantry Missouri Volunteers were embarked under my command upon the steamboat West Wind to proceed to Jefferson City by river, in pursuance of orders from headquarters of the District of North Missouri. Accompanying me as passengers on their way to headquarters were Lieut. Col. D. J. Hynes, chief of cavalry; Surg. F. G. Porter, medical director, and Capt. G. A. Holloway, assistant adjutant-general upon the staff of the general commanding the district, and Lieuts. J. A. Cotton and I. H. Eldridge, of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry. Second Lieut. George F. Simmonds, of the Sixty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, at his own request, was ordered to report to me for duty during his leave of absence, and up to the moment of his being killed in action rendered me efficient service in responsible positions. At Fort Leavenworth Maj. Gen. S. R. Curtis sent the steam boat Benton with us, under the control of Maj. S. S. Curtis, of his staff, to remove Government stores from Lexington to a place of safety, and kindly allowed me to transfer

half my command to her. Notwithstanding this assistance we met with frequent detentions by grounding on bars. The boats could not run after dark. Arriving at Camden at night-fall the boats were landed opposite the town. Guerrillas were reported to occupy Wellington, seven miles below, and to be annoying citizens of Lexington. To clear them away from the river-bank I took four companies ashore and marched through Wellington to Lexington, distance fifteen miles, reaching the city before daybreak, and there awaited the boats, which came in a few hours afterward. The Government stores spoken of were loaded upon the Benton by the post quartermaster, who placed his sergeant in charge of them. On the 11th of October, when near Brunswick, I learned that the town was occupied by guerrillas and rebel conscripts. We approached the place with caution, landed at the mouth of Grand River, and a portion of the troops were taken ashore. We found some forty or fifty of the enemy well posted in a strong log and earth work. Our skirmishers, under Lieutenant Simmonds, fired upon them, and they were said to have lost two men, who were carried off by their comrades, mortally wounded. They mounted their horses, left their fortifications without returning our fire, and fled to the woods. I feared that they would concentrate near the river-bank below us and attack our boats. I therefore remained over night, mounted about fifty men, and sent them to disperse any hostile bands which they might meet. Only one small squad was reported to have been found. Early the next morning we started for Glasgow, where the assistant adjutant-general and myself both expected to receive orders from the commanding general. We grounded near Cambridge and could not start again until the afternoon of the 13th. While lying aground I learned that Cambridge, a mile below us, was held by rebel conscripts and Shelby's men to the number of about fifty. I also received a dispatch from Captain Mayo, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry, commanding at Glasgow, stating that his communications were cut off and asking for assistance. We ran by Cambridge without stopping, delivering our fire into the town and the woods below it as we passed, scattering the rebels, and arrived at Glasgow on the evening of the 13th without loss, excepting from disease.

I found that Captain Mayo had received orders from department headquarters to hold the city. The officers and leading citizens whom I met after landing, did not anticipate any attack other than from irregular troops and conscripts who had gathered near Keytesville, Roanoke, and Fayette. The garrison of the place, re-enforced by my command, was considered ample to defend it, although before our arrival considerable apprehension had been felt. Information had been received that Price's main army was at Boonville, and that some of his forces were at Arrow Rock, but it was further believed that he had been routed at Jefferson City; that our troops were in close pursuit of him; that he had no steam or other ferry boat with which to cross any large body of men with or without artillery; and that another column of our army was as high up as Rocheport, advancing on the north bank of the river to intercept him and prevent the crossing, should he attempt it. No fears of an attack from Price's regular force had been entertained. The danger was thought to lie in the concentration of conscripts and bushwhackers, in a body, greatly exceeding Captain Mayo's small command, and then sweeping through the city for the sake of plunder. It was supposed also that on the next day the telegraph line to Allen could be repaired. As it would have been worse than useless to attempt to pass Arrow Rock and Boonville, when it was evident that

we were no longer needed at Jefferson City, and as nothing seemed to justify the abandonment of Glasgow, I determined to remain there. On the morning of the 14th Captain Bingham, of the Saline County militia, with eighty-five mounted men, was sent out to re-establish telegraphic communications. He returned near night-fall, unsuccessful, having encountered about 250 rebels on his way. On the same day, also, the Benton's cargo was unloaded and Major Curtis proceeded up the river with her. In this bold undertaking I was very happy to hear that he succeeded. He did not reach his destination without having to run the gauntlet of the bushwhackers. Major Curtis, the master of the boat, Captain Fechto, and his officers and crew, are said to have exhibited the most determined courage on the trip. I wish here to return my thanks to Major Curtis for his uniform readiness to perform all that I asked of him, and for the willing assistance which he gave me on all occasions. The West Wind, in the opinion of her master, drew too much water to venture to go with the Benton, and was subsequently disabled by the enemy's artillery, and later still, was burned by the rebels at the levee at Glasgow. After making myself somewhat acquainted with the ground, pickets were strengthened, the mounted men being advanced from one to two miles on the different roads; scouts were sent out and the battalion of the Forty-third was moved into camp in a good position, between the Huntsville plank road and the Fayette road. In the evening I assumed command of the post, with Lieut. I. H. Eldridge, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry (who had reported to me for duty), as post-adjutant. The garrison consisted of 481 officers and men of the Forty-third Missouri, Ninth Missouri State Militia, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry, and Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, for duty, and about 150 militia and citizens. The fighting force on the next day, however, did not exceed 550 men, and we had no artillery. The Boonville and Fayette roads both cross a creek which runs along the southern edge of the town, the bridges being a mile or more apart. The plank road enters the town between that creek and another running along the northern limits of the place. The Keytesville road and several others, including the Huntsville dirt road, converge and cross the northern creek near the bank of the Missouri River; the houses of the Messrs. Lewis are north of it on elevated ground. Captain Hunter, with parts of Companies B and M, Ninth Missouri State Militia, were stationed near the house of Mr. Ben. Lewis. Captain Mayo had charge of the bridge on the Boonville road. A strong infantry picket reserve was stationed at the bridge on the Fayette road, and the camp of the Forty-third Missouri was about equi-distant from Captains Hunter and Mayo, on a ridge between the Fayette and Huntsville plank roads. The citizen guards and some of the milita were quartered in town.

At 5 o'clock on the morning of the 15th the enemy opened upon the town with two pieces, a 12-pounder and a 6-pounder, rifled, from the opposite bank of the river. At the same time a scout came in and reported 900 men advancing from Keytesville. Sharpshooters were sent to drive back the artillery, and the mounted pickets in the direction of Keytesville were re-enforced, with instructions to skirmish back when attacked. A lieutenant of Captain Bingham's company Saline County independent militia was in charge of the picket. The sharpshooters drove the enemy's guns back into the woods and they did not annoy us much until later in the day. The lieutenant of the picket became in danger of being cut off and escaped with forty men to Macon City. Immediately after these arrangements were made one of the vedettes on the Boonville road came in and reported the enemy advancing in

heavy force. It was not long before the head of the column appeared. The enemy deployed on the slope facing the creek south of the town under and in front of two field pieces which were placed in position on the crest of the heights. I sent Maj. B. K. Davis, of the Forty-third Missouri Volunteers, with three companies of that regiment, to hold the bank of the creek from the bridge on the Fayette road down toward Captain Mayo. Captain Dusold, with his company (A, Forty-third), was sent to re enforce Captain Mayo; Captain Steinmetz, with a citizen company, was ordered to take ground between Davis and Mayo. The bridges had been made impassable by taking up the planks. Two companies of the Forty-third were left in camp with skirmishers out. Captain Hunter was a mile and a half north of the line thus formed and could not safely be withdrawn. The troops along the creek resisted the passage of it manfully, but soon had to be ordered back, as the enemy's force was so great that he was enabled not only to pass around both flanks, but to pour through the long intervals which necessarily existed in the line. By this time a brigade which had passed to the east of us was advancing upon my camp with one field gun, and the two companies there were hotly engaged. Another large body, which afterward proved to be Lawther's regiment, passed around still farther to the east, intending to enter the town from the north. In attempting this it fell in with the troops posted in the neighborhood of Mr. Lewis' place and was held in check by them all day. As these troops could not be moved from their position without letting Lawther down upon my left flank and rear, and were so remote as not to be engaged with any other portion of the enemy's army, no further mention need be made of them than that they fought with much gallantry, and that to them and their leaders, Captain Hunter and his officers and Lieutenant Eldridge, of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, great praise is due for their obstinate resistance. The line of defense, to which we fell back from the creek, had for its right an elevation in town, around the crest of which some slight rifle-pits had been constructed, and for its left a brick school-house. About 800 yards north along the ridge between these points are several brick and wooden buildings. The retreat to this line was very slow, every possible opportunity being taken to retard the enemy's progress. Adjt. Joseph Thompson, of the Forty-third Missouri Volunteers, conducted the retreat of the two companies at my camp to the left of the new position with skill and bravery, punishing the enemy (Greene's brigade) very severely. Another company of the Forty-third was sent to him. Lieutenant-Colonel Hynes assisted on the right and, with Companies C and G (Captains Brown and Kirkham), Forty-third Missouri, turned upon one of Jackman's regiments, charged and broke it. Major Davis brought in and posted the center under a heavy fire in good order. In fact, none of the volunteers were thrown into disorder at any time, so far as my observation went.

During the morning a flag of truce came to me from the enemy's lines. It was borne by two citizens, who informed me that Brig. Gen. John B. Clark, jr., was in command of the forces in my front and on my flanks, having about 4,000 men; that Brigadier-General Shelby had his division on the opposite side, and that a steam-boat was on its way up to cross the river. As these gentlemen brought me no message from the rebel commander I had no answer to send. The rifle-pits were designed to hold about 250 men. To the east, southeast, and south were houses which were occupied by the enemy as fast as their artillery drove us out of them, except those which we were able to burn. The western face and the area inside of them, as well as the streets

leading from the river eastward, were swept by Shelby's guns. These guns also annoyed our men in the houses along the ridge clean to our left flank. Every available shelter was taken by the enemy, and he cautiously and slowly, but constantly, advanced his skirmishers to points nearer to us, and when he had established them at any position closed upon them until he had a heavy force within from thirty to fifty yards of us all along our line and partly around our right. By noon I had become convinced that I could not hold the place if the enemy chose to make an assault. My line was so thin that it could be pierced anywhere and I could neither shelter nor re-enforce it; while to give up any one position in it was to lose the whole. I tried in vain to find one company even which could be spared to send in on the left. Every man had been engaged for hours and every one was needed where he was; at the same time I could see movements of the enemy forming his lines on my flanks and front indicating his intention to make an assault. Clark's artillery too was moved up to short range so as to tell upon the houses where we were sheltered; they would soon be untenable. In this situation I consulted with some of the officers as to the practicability of cutting our way out and finally abandoned the idea of doing so and came to the conclusion to capitulate, if honorable terms could be obtained, in order to save the lives of my men and of the citizens as well as to save the city itself, which would have been sacked and destroyed had it been taken by assault. I ordered the public property destroyed. Maj. John R. Moore, commissary, Missouri State Militia, burned his stores, amounting to about 50,000 rations; but the quartermaster's stores on the levee (brought from Lexington) were captured by the enemy. At 1.30 o'clock I surrendered on the terms that the garrison should march out with its arms and colors; officers to retain their horses, side-arms, and private property; the men to retain what private property they had belonging to them; persons and private property of citizens to be respected. After the arms were stacked the men were sworn by a staff officer of General Clark not to take up arms against the Confederate States during the war and not to give aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. I was not consulted about this step. Paroles were offered through me to the officers with me. I declined to give my consent until I could refer to the orders of the War Department on the subject. Captain Holloway had and produced the orders of 1863. He, with Lieutenant-Colonel Hynes and myself, came to the conclusion that under the second paragraph of General Orders, No. 49, series 1863, the paroles offered us might be accepted and I so notified the officers. After the surrender a steam ferry-boat arrived from below. On the 16th the officers' paroles were taken and we were permitted to rejoin our men. We were all sent across the river under escort and conducted to the La Mine River on our way to the nearest Federal post. We there met Captain Glaze, who had been sent by Brigadier-General Fisk to relieve our escort and conduct us to Boonville, where he was. We were treated with courtesy and kindness by General Clark and nearly all of his officers whom we came in contact with. I desire particularly to acknowledge the assiduous care which Lieutenant Graves, of the Third (rebel) Missouri Volunteers, commanding our escort, bestowed upon us and the good behavior of his men. Had they been our own troops we could not have been better treated.

Maj. F. G. Porter, medical director District of North Missouri, took charge of the hospital during the battle, with Dr. J. Q. Egelston, surgeon Forty-third Missouri, and Doctor Todd, citizen of Brunswick, to assist him. The two last were left in charge of the sick and wounded

when the command started for our lines, assisted by the Rev. N. Alvord, acting chaplain of the Forty-third. They remained faithfully at their posts after the regular Confederate forces left, during the days when Anderson and Jackman and their gangs of murderers and fiends had possession of the place and threatened the massacre of all who were in the U. S. service. Neither the surgeons, the chaplain, nor any of the hospital nurses, or of the sick and wounded, was made prisoner or paroled by the rebels, and on the other hand I learned that the surgeon and assistants in their hospital extended protection to our people against Anderson's men, and shared with us such stores as they could procure. Our loss was 11 killed and 32 wounded. That of the enemy was much larger. His killed and mortally wounded on both sides of the river is known to have been as many as 67, and his wounded exceeded 200, according to the best accounts I have.

I acknowledge with great pleasure the assistance rendered me by Lieutenant-Colonel Hynes, Surgeon Porter, Major Moore, Captain Holloway, and Lieutenants Cotton and Eldridge, who placed themselves under my orders as soon as the engagement commenced and performed their various duties with gallantry and skill under severe fire. Major Moore's horse was shot under him. Second Lieutenant Simmonds, Sixty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, was killed while leading some men to an important position. He at all times exhibited unflinching energy and bravery, and by his death the service has lost an officer who was a credit to it. The officers and men of my original command and of the former garrison of the place, with few exceptions, behaved extremely well. I desire to call particular attention to the good conduct of Major Davis and Adjutant Thompson, of the Forty-third, and of Captain Mayo, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry. Lists of my killed and wounded have been furnished.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHESTER HARDING, JR.,
Colonel Forty-third Missouri Volunteers.

Lieut. W. T. CLARKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of North Missouri.

ADDENDA.

*List of killed and wounded in the action at Glasgow, Mo., on the 15th of October, 1864.**

Forty-third Missouri Volunteers: Killed, 8; wounded, 26. Citizen Guard, Glasgow: Killed, 2. Sixty-second U. S. Colored Infantry: Killed, 1; wounded, 6.

Immediately after the action there were missing of the Forty-third Missouri Volunteers, 9; Thirteenth Cavalry, 3; militia reported, 69. No names of the militia can be furnished. They had no organization under the law, but were independent companies. The missing men of the Forty-third and the Thirteenth Missouri have since reported for duty. Copies of this list have heretofore been sent to district commander, through Colonel Bonneville, to department headquarters, and to the Adjutant-General at Washington.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHESTER HARDING, JR.,
Colonel Forty-third Missouri Volunteers.

* Nominal list omitted.

No. 49.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Daniel M. Draper, Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

FAYETTE, *September 25, 1864.*

GENERAL: We heard yesterday about noon that this place had been captured by 600 bushwhackers under Quantrill, but our horses had just come in from running these same scoundrels. From the direction they took I had no idea that they contemplated an attack upon this place, so I went back to Rocheport, after following the trail until it ran out from the scattering of the rebels. The fight here was a most gallant one on the part of the Ninth. I understood your instructions to me were to take what men of Major Leonard's could be spared and move on to Rocheport. I acted accordingly. I do not know whether or not you have had a detailed report of the fight here. The advance guard of the rebels were all dressed in Federal uniform and were consequently not suspected until they began firing. The provost guard immediately took post in the court-house and fought the whole command of villains until they left for camp. This gave the men time to rally on camp, which was near the college building. They then went into that and fought them until they got sick of it and left in a hurry, leaving 5 dead on the ground. They probably carried off some dead and many wounded, as they pressed wagons, buggies, and carriages on the road as far as we could hear from them.

I congratulate myself on having command of such men as are in my regiment, and hope that I may soon have them all together. General Douglass is giving you such information as he has, so it is not necessary for me to repeat. I differ with him as to the number of them. He thinks the principal force is below yet; I do not. I think they were all here.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAN. M. DRAPER,
Lieutenant-Colonel Ninth.

[General FISK.]

STURGEON, *September 29, 1864.*

After leaving Centralia on Tuesday the guerrillas fell back about two miles to the timber, keeping pickets in view of the town. Major Johnston was then following their trail with 150 men. He went to where they were, and when he came in sight dismounted his men and formed them in line, each man holding his own horse. The guerrillas were moving toward him, but checked up at this, but soon came on a charge. When 150 yards distant the major ordered his men to fire, which they did, bringing the enemy to a halt. After the volley they came on, and when within 100 yards the men began to break, many of them not firing the second shot, and none of them more than that. It then became a scene of murder and outrage at which the heart sickens. Most of them were beaten over the head, seventeen of them were scalped, and one man had his privates cut off and placed in his mouth. Every man was shot in the head. One man had his nose cut off. One hundred and fifty dead bodies have been found, including the twenty-four taken from the train. I moved down to Centralia yesterday, and knowing that Douglass and Major King were somewhere in the country toward which Anderson is supposed to have taken, I did not follow.

I endeavored in every way to find out their whereabouts, but have not been able to hear of them since they went into that country. Anderson was at least thirty hours ahead of me when I got to Centralia, and I knew he must turn back or cross the river before I could get to him. I came back here, after ordering the citizens to bury the eighty-five bodies left at Centralia, as this was the best point at which to get information from the country. Colonel Stauber sent out scouts this afternoon, which have not yet returned, to ascertain the cause of firing heard by citizens of the country south of this. The party has orders not to fight, but get information. As soon as it returns I will give results.

DAN. M. DRAPER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Brigadier-General FISK.

No. 50.

Report of Maj. Hiram Hilliard, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF THE PLATTE,
Weston, Mo., December 8, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit a report agreeable to your requirement under date December 2, 1864.

Since the 1st day of August, 1864, the date of my command leaving Saint Joseph, Mo., up to present date, and in all the skirmishes had with the enemy, none of my command have been killed and none wounded by shot. Charles W. Yoder, of A Company, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, was severely beaten about the head by a blow from a rifle in the hands of one of Lieutenant Gordon's gang, but has since entirely recovered, and one man, Sergt. Henry Harrington, of A Company, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, sustained a fracture of the clavicle by the falling of his horse while engaged with the same gang.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. HILLIARD,
Major, Commanding Detachment Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri.

No. 51.

Report of Lieut. Col. Thaddeus J. Stauber, Forty-second Missouri Infantry.

STURGEON, *September 24, 1864.*

One hundred of the Third Missouri State Militia were attacked yesterday eight miles north of Rocheport and routed by Bill Anderson at the head of 300 guerrillas. Third lost all their company and quartermaster teams and camp equipage, ammunition, and headquarters books and papers, and medical stores, and took thirty prisoners, mostly footmen. Eleven got into this post about 12 o'clock last night. The men were under command of Captain McFaden, who has not yet been heard from. I am mounting the men as rapidly as they can get horses.

T. J. STAUBER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

General FISK.

No. 52.

Report of Lieut. Col. Samuel P. Cox, Thirty-third Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. THIRTY-THIRD REGT. ENROLLED MISSOURI MIL.,
Richmond, Mo., October 27, 1864.

DEAR SIR: We have the honor to report the result of our expedition on yesterday against the notorious bushwhacker, William T. Anderson, and his forces, near Albany, in the southwest corner of this county (Ray).

Learning his whereabouts we struck camp on yesterday morning and made a forced march and came in contact with their pickets about a mile this side of Albany; drove them in and through Albany and into the woods beyond. We dismounted our men in the town, threw our infantry force into the woods beyond, sending a cavalry advance who engaged the enemy and fell back, when Anderson and his fiendish gang, about 300 strong, raised the Indian yell and came in full speed upon our lines, shooting and yelling as they came. Our lines held their position without a break. The notorious bushwhacker, Anderson, and one of his men, supposed to be Captain Rains, son of General Rains, charged through our lines. Anderson was killed and fell some fifty steps in our rear, receiving two balls in the side of the head. Rains made his escape and their forces retreated in full speed, being completely routed; our cavalry pursued them some ten miles, finding the road strewn with blood for miles. We hear of them scattered in various directions, some considerable force of them making their way toward Richfield, in Clay County. We captured on Anderson private papers and orders from General Price that identify him beyond a doubt.

I have the honor to report that my officers and men conducted themselves well and fought bravely on the field. We had 4 men wounded; lost none. The forces of my command consisted of a portion of Major Grimes', of Ray County, Fifty-first Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, and a portion of the Thirty-third Enrolled Missouri Militia, from Daviess and Caldwell Counties.

Respectfully, yours,

S. P. COX,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Thirty-third Regt. Enrolled Missouri Militia.

General CRAIG.

No. 53.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Edward A. Kutzner, Thirty-ninth Missouri Infantry.

MACON, *September 27, 1864.*

Major Johnston attacked Anderson at Centralia this afternoon. Our forces are cut to pieces and Major Johnston supposed to be killed. Major Johnston had parts of two companies—probably 200 men. Captain Smith supposed to be killed. Rebels have 600 or 700 men.

E. A. KUTZNER,
Colonel, &c.

General FISK.

HDQRS. THIRTY-NINTH REGT. INFTY. MISSOURI VOLS.,
Macon, Mo., September 29, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that detachments of Companies A, G, and H of this regiment, under the command of Maj. A. V. E. Johnston, left Paris, Mo., at 10 p. m. on the 26th instant, marched during the night, and about 7 o'clock on the morning of the 27th instant struck a trail which was supposed to be that of Anderson's guerrillas. The command followed said trail to Centralia, where information was received that Anderson had burned the depot and two trains on the North Missouri Railroad, and murdered 24 soldiers, who were returning to their homes. The major determined at once to attack the enemy, and, sending a dispatch to Sturgeon for re-enforcements and leaving Captain Theis with thirty-three men in the town, marched with 125 of his command one mile and a half in a southeasterly direction, when, discovering the guerrillas, formed his line of battle and dismounted his men. About the time the order was executed Anderson charged with his whole force, a part of which had been concealed by a hollow in the prairie. Our forces had but time to fire one volley, when the enemy from his great superiority of numbers and arms broke through the line, completely surrounding the troops, giving no quarter and mutilating bodies. Captain Theis, hearing Major Johnston was killed and his command cut to pieces, ordered a retreat, and succeeded in saving eighteen out of the thirty-three men left in the town.

I have to deplore the loss of the brave and chivalrous Maj. A. V. E. Johnston, Capt. J. A. Smith, an officer of much merit, and the gallant soldiers who fell on this bloody field.

Herewith inclosed please find return of the killed, wounded, and missing.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. A. KUTZNER,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. G. A. HOLLOWAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dist. of North Missouri.

[Inclosure.]

*Return of the killed, wounded, and missing in the Thirty-ninth Regiment Infantry Missouri Volunteers, at Centralia, Mo., September 27, 1864.**

Recapitulation: Killed, 2 officers, 114 enlisted men; wounded, 2 enlisted men; missing, 6 enlisted men; total, 124.

I certify that the above is a correct return of the killed, wounded, and missing in the Thirty-ninth Regiment Infantry Missouri Volunteers, at the engagement at Centralia, Mo., September 27, 1864.

THOS. C. TRIPLER,
First Lieut. and Adjt., Thirty-ninth Regt. Infty. Missouri Vols.

No. 54.

Report of Maj. George Deagle, Sixty-fifth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

CARROLLTON, MO., *December 4, 1864.*

COLONEL: I respectfully submit the following report of the surrender of my command at Carrollton, Mo., on the 17th of October, 1864:

On the morning of the 17th my pickets that had been on duty the night before on the road north of town came in from their post without

* Nominal list omitted.

having been relieved. As soon as I ascertained the fact of the picket having left their post I ordered out new pickets, but before they had gone out to their posts the rebels made their appearance in force on the north side of the town. I got my men in line as soon as possible and sent Captain Beaty out to ascertain who they were. He came back with the information that they were Confederates and that they demanded an unconditional surrender of the town, with but fifteen minutes' time to consider. I then rode out and met one of their officers. He made the same demand of me, telling me that they were regular Confederates, of Shelby's brigade, and that they had the artillery planted to shell the place in case of refusal. I then rode back to my men and ordered them to remain in line and be ready for battle. About this time my pickets came in from the south side of town and reported 200 at the Wakenda bridge, south of town. I then rode back and met the Confederate officer, and the demand for surrender was renewed. He told me that they had 600 men north of town. I refused to make an unconditional surrender, telling him that I would fight them as long as I had a man left rather than surrender under such terms. The rebel officer then went back to their command and held a consultation with the officers and came back to me, and I agreed to make the surrender under the following conditions: First, my entire command, officers and men, were to be paroled in Carrollton, Mo., and allowed to go to their homes and receive protection against bushwhackers so long as the Confederates should remain in the country, and the officers to retain their horses and side-arms. Second, all private property was to remain unmolested, and no private citizen was to be arrested or maltreated in any way whatever. These were the terms of surrender. I thought I was greatly outnumbered and was short of ammunition, and seeing no prospect of re-enforcements I thought I was doing the best for my men that could be done under the circumstances.

After agreeing upon the terms, my men grounded their arms, and the rebels took possession of the town. The men were marched into the court-house and placed under guard and the officers were taken to headquarters and paroled, each signing a written obligation not to bear arms against the Confederate States until legally exchanged. Each officer then received a written parole signed by J. C. Cravens, signing himself major and paroling officer C. S. Army. I then insisted on the commanding officer to have my men paroled immediately as agreed upon. He replied that since taking a second thought it had occurred to his recollection that owing to a late agreement between the two Governments the men could not be legally paroled except at the brigade headquarters, and that he should have to take them as prisoners of war to Waverly, Mo. At that place he said that General Shelby had his headquarters, and as soon as they reached that place the men should be paroled without fail. They violated their agreement in many instances. In the first by not paroling these men as agreed upon. Nearly all the officers lost their horses and side-arms. The town was plundered of everything they could carry off. Captain Beaty was arrested (after having been paroled) on the charge of having killed a Colonel Peery of the Confederate army, and two other commissioned officers, one of whom was said to have been a brother of Captain Williams, the man that had Captain Beaty arrested. They took Captain Beaty to their camp that night and kept him under guard until next morning, when they relieved him. They then marched the prisoners in the direction of Brunswick. I went with them to try to have the prisoners paroled as early as possible. They crossed the Mis-

souri River at Brunswick and went to Waverly. Not finding Shelby there, they told me that they should have to take the prisoners with them until they came to Shelby's brigade. They traveled about two miles when a halt was made, and there seemed to be considerable excitement among them. I asked Major Cravens the cause and he told me that they were cut off from the Confederate army. At this time Captain (or Colonel) Williams rode back to me and said that he had just received orders from Shelby to parole all the prisoners captured at Carrollton. The prisoners were then drawn up in line and their names taken. They were then sworn not to bear arms until legally exchanged. The rebel officer then made me sign the obligation for my men, after which they were released, except the six—F. Addison, William Silkey, Joel Trotter, Alexander Stanley, Joseph Street, and John Street. I demanded the release of these men also. Williams said he had charges against them for which he would hold them and give them a fair trial (the charges he said were the same as against Captain Beaty). If they were found guilty of violating the rules of war they would be punished; if not they would be escorted to the Federal lines and released. I afterward learned that Williams gave them up to one of Anderson's men and that they were shot. Their bodies have since been found and identified. They were shot and buried near the place where I left them.

At the time the rebels came into the town I had but about 160 men fit for duty and was short of ammunition. At the time that I took command of the post at this place there was no ammunition on hand. I sent to you twice for ammunition and received a box each time, but about half of that had been used by the men on scouts and picket duty. Under these circumstances and not seeing any prospect of re-enforcements I thought best to surrender.

I have the honor to remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE DEAGLE,
Major Sixty-fifth Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Col. J. H. SHANKLIN,
Commanding Sub-District of Chillicothe.

No. 55.

Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing, jr., U. S. Army, commanding District of Saint Louis.

HEADQUARTERS SAINT LOUIS DISTRICT,
Saint Louis, October 20, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the night of the 24th of September the major-general commanding, having learned that Price's army had entered the department by way of Poplar Bluffs and Bloomfield, ordered me to take a brigade of the Second Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, which was then at Jefferson Barracks, and patrol and garrison the Iron Mountain Railroad, reporting to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, who was to follow next day with the other brigades of the division. At De Soto, leaving the rest of the brigade to await further orders from General Smith, I went on with the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, strengthening the garrisons at all the bridges and making temporary headquarters at Mineral Point. From each station where there

was cavalry I sent scouting parties east and south, which returned by Monday morning, reporting no enemy north of Fredericktown. They brought, however, apparently credible rumors that Price was at Fredericktown with all his army. At 10 Monday morning I took Companies B, C, D, E, and H, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, under Captain Campbell, and went to Pilot Knob. Maj. James Wilson, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry, then commanded the Third Sub-District of this district, with headquarters at that post. He had under orders withdrawn his outposts from Patterson, Centreville, Fredericktown, and Farmington, and collected at Pilot Knob all the available force of his sub-district, except bridge guards. The force there present consisted of Companies A, F, E, G, H, and I, Forty-seventh Missouri Infantry, and Captain Lindsay's company, Fiftieth Missouri Infantry, which were raw troops, with an aggregate of 489 officers and men for duty, and Companies A, C, D, H, I, and K, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry; Company L, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry; Company G, First Missouri State Militia Infantry, and Captain Montgomery's battery, which, with the detachment of the Fourteenth Iowa, made an aggregate of old troops for duty of 562. My instructions from Major-General Rosecrans were to have Major Wilson endeavor to hold Pilot Knob against any mere detachment of the enemy, but to evacuate if Price's main army should move against it. The village of Pilot Knob, which is the terminus of the railroad and the depot for supply of the lower outposts, is eighty-six miles south of Saint Louis. It lies in a plain of about 1,000 acres, encircled by Cedar and Rock Mountains on the north, Pilot Knob on the east, and Shepherd's Mountain, stretching around the valley, on the south and west. Each hill is from 500 to 600 feet in height, and rises abruptly from the valley, with the sides toward it covered with rocks, gnarled oaks, and undergrowth. The southern and western slopes of Shepherd's Mountain are accessible, and several roads lead over them to "the coalings" on its summit. Stout's Creek flows along the base of Shepherd's Mountain and through a gap between it and Pilot Knob into a larger valley of several thousands of acres, encircled by a chain of hills, in the northern end of which and about a mile from the town of Pilot Knob is the flourishing village of Ironton. Through this gap runs the road from Pilot Knob to Fredericktown, passing out of the larger valley by the "Shut-in," a gap four miles southeast of Pilot Knob. The two valleys are called Arcadia.

Fort Davidson is a hexagonal work, mounting four 32-pounder siege guns and three 24-pounder howitzers en barbette. It lies about 300 yards from the base of the knob and 1,000 from the gap. From the fort to the remotest summit of these hills visible from it is not over 1,200 yards, while all parts of the hill sides toward the fort, except the west end of Shepherd's Mountain, are in musket-range. The fort was always conceded to be indefensible against any large army having serviceable artillery. Early last summer I sent competent engineers to select another site, but such are the difficulties of the position no practicable place could be found any more defensible. I therefore had the roads leading up the hills obstructed, cleared the nearest hill-sides of timber, and put the fort in a thorough state of defense by deepening the ditches, strengthening the parapet, and adding two rifle-pits leading north and south, commanding the best approaches. On reaching Pilot Knob at noon of Monday, September 26, I found scouting parties had been sent the night before on all the main roads, but that the party sent toward Fredericktown had returned after going but six or eight miles. I forthwith sent two companies to make a thorough reconnais-

sance toward Fredericktown, and a small scouting party under Captain Powers to cross the roads leading from the south to that place, and learn of the loyal people on them as much as possible as to the force of the enemy. Both commands met Price's advance in Arcadia Valley, near Shut-in Gap, and were forced back into the town of Ironton, where, with Captain Dinger's company, Forty-seventh Missouri, then on duty there, they made a stand. I re-enforced them with the detachment of the Fourteenth Iowa, Captain Campbell commanding, and a section of Montgomery's battery, Lieutenant Simonton commanding, and all my available cavalry, placing the whole under command of Major Wilson, with orders to drive the enemy, if possible, through Shut-in Gap. He drove them to the gap, but was unable to hold them there, and was being forced back gradually when night and a rain-storm suspended the engagement. By midnight it was evident that the enemy were in strong force, as their column could be heard coming into the valley in steady procession, and their encampment grew extensive. We still did not know positively that Price's main army was there, though all our information was decidedly to that effect. But the advantages of delaying the enemy two or three days in his march northward and of making a stubborn fight before retreating were so great, even though the defense should be unsuccessful and much of the garrison be lost, that I resolved to stand fast and take the chances. I immediately forwarded up the railroad all the quartermaster and commissary stores not needed in the fort, and all the rolling-stock, and started the quartermaster's wagons empty. Details were set at work constructing in the fort six platformed barbettes for the field artillery, four pieces of which were taken into it. Lieut. David Murphy, Forty-seventh Missouri Volunteers, a most gallant officer and experienced artillerist, was assigned to duty on my staff as aide-de-camp and given general control of the artillery. Major-General Smith, whose immediate command was at De Soto and Mineral Point, was kept fully advised by telegraph of my information, movements, and purposes, until 11 o'clock Tuesday forenoon, when the line went down.

At daylight Tuesday the enemy forced Wilson back through Arcadia Valley to the gap between Shepherd's Mountain and Pilot Knob. While they were trying to force the gap I ordered the detachment of the Fourteenth Iowa to take position on the east end of Shepherd's Mountain, and ordered Wilson to fall back with his cavalry along the side of Pilot Knob, thus commanding the gap from both sides and opening a clear range from the fort. Wilson soon sent me word that the enemy were displaying a flag of truce. I knew it was a trick to effect a safe passage of the gap while parleying about a surrender, and therefore ordered him to renew the fight at once. A long and obstinate struggle followed in which the enemy lost considerably in an unsuccessful effort to pass the defile. During an hour of comparative quiet which followed they threw a force around Shepherd's Mountain and approached from the west, but that approach was too greatly exposed and they were driven from it by our artillery, aided by two companies of skirmishers. An hour more and my troops were summarily ejected from the points commanding the gap, the enemy following them along the hill-sides in strong force. When they had well advanced we opened on them with all our guns and drove them back in disorder and with heavy loss. We retook the gap, were again forced from it, and again with artillery drove them from the hill-sides. They got two pieces in position on the east end of Shepherd's Mountain commanding a part of the side of Pilot Knob, which being equally commanded from the fort became neutral ground.

We still held with skirmishers the sides of Shepherd's Mountain except the gap, and the side of Pilot Knob not raked by their artillery. After an hour of lull, lines of the enemy were seen at exposed points on the summits of the two hills moving down; and almost before we could open fire on them another white flag was raised on a rock near the summit of Shepherd's Mountain where a group of officers had been taking observations under shelter. With the opening of a brisk cannonade on the group the flag was hauled down. The design was plainly to suspend the firing so that their forces might approach to the assault in safety. I now ordered into the fort the section of artillery operating outside, but the horses stampeded and could not be got in. The section remained under cover of our fire, however, and was brought in before dark. Here the enemy opened on us with two guns from the summit of Shepherd's Mountain at about 800 yards, and two from the side at a less distance. The guns were well covered and we could not silence them, the two nearest getting and keeping our range exactly. The division on Shepherd's Mountain was Marmaduke's, which, on the withdrawal of the white flag and the opening of their artillery, moved rapidly down to the assault, his line greatly broken by the rugged and steep descent, and by our fire, which told with marked effect upon them. On reaching the plain the most of the assaulting force took cover in the deep bed of the creek, from which they opened and kept up an incessant fire. About 100 ventured on to the assault but fell or were driven back before they reached the ditch. Almost simultaneously with the movement of Marmaduke's division, that of General Fagan moved over Pilot Knob in stronger force, and less disturbed by our fire sweeping back in disorder or cutting off our companies which held the town and part of the mountain sides. His lines were greatly broken by the houses and fences of the skirt of the town, but were hastily reformed by him and by General Cabell, who led the assault, and swept upon the plain in handsome style, yelling and on the double-quick. We opened on them when at 600 yards from the fort with musketry from the ramparts and from the long line of the north rifle-pits, and with canister from seven pieces of artillery. They rushed on most gallantly, but were broken, confused, and swept down by our rapid and well-directed fire until the advance reached the ditch, when the attacking forces fled in dismay, leaving apparently almost half their comrades dead or wounded on the plain. Pending the assaults the enemy threw a large cavalry force around the west end of Shepherd's Mountain to occupy the road north of us to Mineral Point. As they moved along the base of Cedar Mountain just after the last assault was repulsed, a sortie was made from the north ditch by which they were routed and lost considerably. A half hour of ineffective musketry and artillery firing ended the engagement with the approach of night.

An examination of prisoners that evening convinced me that Price was there with about 12,000 men and ten pieces of artillery, Shelby's division with eight pieces having gone from Fredericktown to Farmington. I had found myself unable with my force intact to hold the mountain sides so as to prevent his planting artillery there. My command was now reduced one-fourth in effective strength, as I had lost 75 killed and wounded and in our possession, and double that number missing. I knew that the next morning the enemy having possession of the mountain tops and sides would place all his artillery in position to command the fort, which would make it certainly untenable. That morning, at the time when telegraphic communication ended, two infantry regiments of Major-General Smith's command were at Mineral Point,

twenty-three miles north of us, and four miles east of Potosi. I thought they were probably there still and that by getting a good start we could effect a junction with them and fall back or stand as the movement and force of the enemy might permit. I therefore determined to evacuate that night. The chief danger was that the preparations for the retreat might be observed and the garrison cut to pieces or captured in the confusion incident to the exit. The works of the iron company at the north base of Pilot Knob had been fired by the enemy and the immense pile of charcoal adjacent to the works glowed and flamed all night, making the valley as light as noonday. Moreover, I learned Colonel Slayback's command held the Mineral Point road just north of the town, leaving the Potosi road the only exit not certainly in the possession of the enemy. But, with all its dangers, the policy of retreat was clearly best, and preparations for it began at midnight. I had Colonel Fletcher arrange for having the magazine (which was large and filled with every variety of ammunition) blown up in two hours after we left, or as soon as our exit should be discovered by the enemy. We took possession of the town and valley and drove from them all straggling rebels. The garrison was then aroused, knapsacks packed, haversacks, and cartridge-boxes well supplied and everything destructible, which we could not take away and the enemy might use, placed near or on the magazine. At 3 o'clock Colonel Fletcher silently led the infantry out of the sally port around the ditch, and through the north rifle-pit, forming them under cover of a deep shadow at the end of the pit. The drawbridge was then covered with tents to muffle the sound, and the cavalry and battery marching out formed column with the infantry and took a by-way to the Potosi road. We left Slayback's camp on our right and another rebel camp near the road on our left, both unapprised of our movement. The body of the rebel army was at Ironton and thinking us sufficiently hemmed in were busy making fascines and scaling ladders for an assault in the morning. They even failed to take the hint when the magazine, an hour before daylight, shook the hills with its explosion. At sunrise I started Captain Hills, Tenth Kansas, acting aide-de-camp, with ten men to Mineral Point to acquaint the command there of my approach and request it to march and join me. On starting, they, with our advance, fell upon about twenty-five rebels in the town of Caledonia and routed them, killing one. We then learned that our forces had fallen back from Mineral Point and that Shelby had taken Potosi the evening before, and I therefore at once left the Potosi road and took that through Webster toward Rolla.

I afterward learned that after his repulse Tuesday Price ordered Shelby's division down from Potosi to Pilot Knob, to take part in a second attack, and that the squad we routed at Caledonia was Shelby's advance. He waited several hours with his division to give us battle two miles north of Caledonia, thus giving us a good start on the Webster road before pursuing. Marmaduke's division left Pilot Knob at 8 that morning to overtake us and joined Shelby in the pursuit at Caledonia. At sundown we reached Webster, thirty-one miles from Pilot Knob, and rested until midnight. From information received there I determined to go to Harrison, Leasburg, on the southwest branch of the Pacific Railroad, because part of Colonel Warmoth's militia regiment was there, but especially because the road to Rolla was one on which we could be easily surrounded by a superior cavalry force, while that to Harrison led nearly all the way along a sharp spur of the Ozark range, separating the waters of the Huzza and the Courtois, and through the gorge of the Huzza, walled in with untraversable cliffs, to Rolla was

fifty-five miles, to Harrison thirty-five. I here sent Captain Hills, with ten men in advance, to Franklin with instructions to telegraph thence to the major-general commanding at Saint Louis and to General McNeil at Rolla of our movements and to arrange means for securing our safe and speedy withdrawal from Harrison to Rolla or Saint Louis.

The night was intensely dark and stormy and we groped our way with great effort and little progress. We had just reached the ridge at 8 Thursday morning, when the enemy charged on our rear guard and drove it upon the column. I placed the detachment of the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, Company H, Forty-seventh Missouri, Companies C, D, and K, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry, and Lieutenant Smiley's section of artillery, in the rear, all under the command of Major Williams, Tenth Kansas, acting aide-de-camp, and, with occasional halts to rake the woods with grape and canister, we made a good and successful march, the enemy almost constantly engaged with our rear guard, but unable to break through or flank it until we came within four miles of Harrison. There the road debouches on a high sweep of gently rolling woodland and from that out we fought hard for every step we gained. The refugees, men, women, and children, white and black, who clung to the command, nearly sacrificed it by their panics. I had to throw out the available fighting force, infantry and cavalry, as advance and rear guard and flankers, leaving in the body of the column the affrighted non-combatants, and two sections of artillery not often brought into action on the retreat. Repeated and stubborn efforts were made to bring us to a stand, and could they have forced a halt of an hour they would have enveloped and taken us, but our halts, though frequent, were brief, and were only to unlimber the artillery, stagger the pursuers with a few rounds, and move on. We reached Harrison just after dark, having made the march of sixty-six miles in thirty-nine hours. We found Warmoth's militia gone. This station is thirty-five miles from Rolla, forty-five from Franklin, and eighty-two from Saint Louis. The position is naturally strong, being on the crest of a ridge, with no timber to obstruct the range for 200 yards on either side. A cut for the railroad track gave shelter for the horses. A large number of ties were there, of which the militia had made breast-works, and the adjacent buildings were well situated for purposes of defense. My command had just time to form and the artillery to unlimber, when an assault was made, but aided by darkness and our rude defenses we repulsed it. Just then the eastern train arrived with military stores for Rolla, and cars enough to move my command. We got the command aboard and were about to start for Saint Louis, with the cavalry and artillery horses moving on a parallel road, when the nearest stations north and south of us were seen in flames. The command was at once taken off the cars and the night spent in fortifying.

At daybreak Friday the enemy appeared in force and prepared apparently for an assault. They kept up a demonstration through the day, accompanied with a heavy fire of skirmishers, which was well replied to from our defenses. Having less than thirty rounds to the gun we used our artillery but little, reserving it for the moment of assault, or the emergencies of a farther retreat. The day passed in instant expectation of an attack in force and in unremitting labor on the defenses, which were extended and strengthened, so they grew formidable. Friday night another assault was repulsed and the night passed in snatches of rest, amid hourly and most harassing alarms. Hearing nothing of re-enforcements I at midnight dispatched a citizen messenger to Rolla to ask help from there, and Lieutenant-Colonel

Maupin to Franklin, to advise the general commanding of my condition and to endeavor to bring some mounted militia from Franklin County to my aid if nothing better could be done, my now total want of serviceable cavalry and the exhausted condition of my infantry having made a farther retreat an extremely hazardous undertaking. The citizen got to Rolla, but Lieutenant-Colonel Maupin and Captain Schenck, and Lieutenant Fletcher, who accompanied him, could not accomplish their errand and barely escaped capture. Saturday morning the enemy appeared in increased force, thoroughly reconnoitered our position, and made every disposition for assault, but the forenoon passed in an incessant fire with their skirmishers and constant expectation of an attack in force. I think our thorough readiness and plain purpose to fight it out made him feel we would cost more than our worth. He drew off at 2 p. m. and at 4 Lieutenant-Colonel Beveridge, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, with 500 men of his command, came to our rescue from General McNeil at Rolla. Strong cavalry pickets were at once posted on four roads occupied by the enemy north of our encampment, and were pushed out more than a mile. At midnight, leaving a hundred men to occupy Harrison and re-enforce the pickets if necessary, and to destroy the few stores left in the train unissued, I withdrew my command and marched for Rolla. On arriving at Saint James, twelve miles from Rolla, at noon Sunday, the infantry were sent to that post by railroad. Next day I turned over my infantry and cavalry, worn out with toil and watching, to General McNeil, to garrison Rolla, whereupon he marched with his cavalry and that of General Sanborn and my battery to the defense of Jefferson City. Tuesday I got an escort of forty men and passing in the rear of the enemy reached Saint Louis with the members of my staff Wednesday night.

Our loss at Pilot Knob was about 200 killed, wounded, and missing, and in the several engagements on the retreat to Rolla about 150. Of the missing the most were cut off in detachments and escaped capture, so that our actual loss was about 150 killed and wounded, and 50 captured and paroled. Among our severely wounded were Lieut. Smith Thompson, Fourteenth Iowa; Lieut. John Fessler, First Infantry Missouri State Militia, and Lieut. John Braden, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, since dead; Maj. James Wilson, Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia, after being wounded was captured on Pilot Knob, and subsequently with six of his gallant men was brutally murdered by order of a rebel field officer of the day. The rebel loss at Pilot Knob, killed and wounded, exceeded 1,500, as is shown by the inclosed letter of T. W. Johnson, surgeon in charge of our hospital there, and also by corroborative testimony gathered since our reoccupation of the post. In the rebel hospital at Ironton, on the 12th instant, we found Colonel Thomas, chief of General Fagan's staff, 3 majors, 7 captains, 12 lieutenants, and 204 enlisted men, representing seventeen regiments and four batteries, all dangerously and nearly all mortally wounded. The rest of the rebel wounded who were not able to follow the army were sent south by General Price, under escort of Colonel Rains' regiment. As to the loss of the enemy in the pursuit and at Harrison I have no knowledge.

To the officers commanding the several detachments, to wit, Col. Thomas C. Fletcher, Forty-seventh Missouri Infantry; Capt. William J. Campbell, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry; Capt. William C. F. Montgomery, Second Missouri Artillery; Lieut. John Fessler, First Infantry Missouri State Militia; Capt. Robert L. Lindsay, Fiftieth Missouri Infantry; Capt. A. P. Wright, Second Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and also

to Maj. H. H. Williams, Tenth Kansas; Capt. Charles S. Hills, Tenth Kansas; Capt. H. B. Milks, Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia; Lieut. David Murphy, Forty-seventh Missouri Infantry, and Surg. S. D. Carpenter, of my staff, I am indebted for an intelligent and thorough discharge of duty which contributed largely to our success. Nearly an hundred citizens of Pilot Knob and Ironton (among whom were General McCormick, Colonel Lindsay, Captain Leeper, Major Emerson, and other well known gentlemen), organized and commanded by Capt. P. F. Lonergan, First Infantry Missouri State Militia, fought and worked well. A colored man named Charles Thurston, organized and commanded a company of negroes, who eagerly bore their share of labor and danger. I owe it to the cherished memory of Major Wilson, to add in conclusion an honorable mention of his name, not only because of the nerve and skill with which for two days preceding the assault he embarrassed and delayed the overwhelming forces of the enemy, but also because of his long and useful service in this district unblemished by a fault.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS EWING, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

Col. J. V. DU BOIS,
Chief of Staff, Headquarters Dept. of the Missouri.

ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 189. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF THE MISSOURI, *Saint Louis, Mo., October 6, 1864.*

With pride and pleasure the commanding general notices the gallant conduct of Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing, jr., and his command, in the defense of Pilot Knob, and in the subsequent retreat to Rolla. With scarcely 1,000 effective men they repulsed the attacks of Price's invading army, and successfully retreated with their battery a distance of 100 miles, in the face of a pursuing and assailing cavalry force of five times their number. Such conduct deserves imitation, particularly when contrasted with the cowardly conduct of the troops at Osage bridge. The general commanding presents his hearty thanks and congratulations to Col. Thomas C. Fletcher, Forty-seventh Missouri Volunteers; Maj. James Wilson, Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia; Capt. Robert L. Lindsay, Fiftieth Missouri Volunteers; Capt. William J. Campbell, Company K, Fourteenth Iowa Volunteers; Capt. W. C. F. Montgomery, Second Missouri Artillery; Capt. A. P. Wright, Second Cavalry Missouri State Militia; Lieut. John Fessler, First Infantry Missouri State Militia, and the officers and men under their command. They have deserved well of their country. The general commanding desires also publicly to recognize the courage and efficiency of Lieut. Col. Amos W. Maupin, Forty-seventh Missouri Volunteers; Maj. H. H. Williams, Tenth Kansas Volunteers; Capt. Charles S. Hills, Tenth Kansas Volunteers; Capt. H. B. Milks, Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia; Capt. P. F. Lonergan, First Infantry Missouri State Militia; and First Lieut. David Murphy, adjutant Forty-seventh Missouri Volunteers. Under such commanders Federal troops should always march to victory.

By command of Major-General Rosecrans:

FRANK ENO,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 56.

Reports of Acty. Asst. Surg. Thomas W. Johnson, U. S. Army.

IRONTON, MO., *December 10, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to forward the following list of killed and wounded in the fight of September 27, 1864, at Pilot Knob, Mo.*

T. W. JOHNSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army.

Surg. S. D. CARPENTER, U. S. Volunteers,
Medical Director.

PILOT KNOB, *December 10, 1864.*

GENERAL: The following men were killed September 27, 1864.† Besides these 7 [?] killed and 12 mortally wounded there were 49 others with lesser wounds whose names I sent you to-day. In addition to this J. L. Harris, private, Company C, Third Missouri State Militia, and Robert Summers, private, Company A, Third Missouri State Militia, were killed at Leasburg, September 30, 1864. This list comprises all the casualties which I have any record of.

Yours,

T. W. JOHNSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon.

Brigadier-General EWING.

No. 57.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Hiram M. Hiller, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., *September 22, 1864.*

The rebels attacked Captain Sells two or three times this morning. The last attack was made near Sikeston. Sells formed his men in line, and opened on them with howitzers. When the rebels attacked, Sells was forced to burn his train between the Castor and Whitewater. He was at Benton with his forces this evening, and will be in during the night. This was about 10 o'clock in the morning. They did not make their appearance again, and he marched here unmolested. His loss is 3 killed, 7 wounded, and some 10 missing—reports killing 20. The rebels had one 2-pounder gun. Captain Sells informs me that while he was fighting with musketry he heard cannon firing at Bloomfield, and from the sound and distance judges the guns to be 12-pounders. The force that marched on Bloomfield was commanded by Colonels Jeffers, Kitchen, and Major Parrott, 1,500 strong. Sells reports some 6,000 men marching toward Chalk Bluff from Gainesville.

H. M. HILLER.

Brigadier-General EWING.

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* Nominal list (omitted) shows 14 enlisted men and 8 citizens killed and 12 enlisted men and 5 citizens wounded.

† Nominal list (omitted) shows 4 enlisted men and 2 citizens killed and 10 enlisted men and 2 citizens wounded.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., *September 21, 1864.*

My picket force at Jackson was attacked and driven in about sundown this evening at Whitewater bridge, on Bloomfield road. Fell back at 4 p. m. on account of large rebel force crossing above them. The lieutenant in charge reports that from the best information he could get there were 5,000 rebels approaching this way.

H. M. HILLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Brigadier-General EWING.

No. 58.

Report of Capt. Adolph Tacke, Enrolled Missouri Militia.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, *September 30, 1864.*

In accordance with orders received from you I proceeded on Saturday, 24th instant, with a guard of twenty-five men, to Jackson, to take command of the place, observe the movements of the enemy, and hold the place if possible. In pursuance thereof I have the honor to report to you as follows:

I arrived at 5.30 p. m. and placed pickets on the roads leading to Jackson immediately, and while preparing supper for the balance of the men, a party of William L. Jeffers' rebel command, comprising some 150 to 200 mounted men, came upon us in full gallop, shouting and shooting into the place, on the main road on approaching town. They came from the direction of Bloomfield, up the bottom road leading into the main road about 300 or 400 yards from the court-house at Jackson. Their advance guard being dressed in Federal uniform were mistaken by my pickets for a party of our own men, several scouts having gone out the same day in that as well as other directions. With the few men I had left I made all possible resistance. We discharged our shotguns at them, killing 1 of their men and wounding 1 lieutenant and 1 private, also killing 2 of their horses and 1 mule. I lost 1 man killed, 1 wounded, and 8 missing; lost 21 horses and accouterments, and about 18 guns and accouterments. Seeing further resistance from us against such an unequal force useless, and to avoid capture of the whole party, I managed to make my escape to Cape Girardeau with the balance of my command.

ADOLPH TACKE,
Capt., Comdg. Co. Six Months' Vols., Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Lieut. Col. H. M. HILLER,
Commanding Second Sub-District of Saint Louis.

No. 59.

Reports of Maj. James Wilson, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

PILOT KNOB, MO., *September 20, 1864.*

The scout sent out according to your order, about eighty in number, were surrounded at Ponder's Mill, on Little Black River, and all but ten were either captured or killed. They report the rebels in large force, and say that Price was reported to be at Pocahontas.

JAMES WILSON,
Major, Commanding.

General EWING,
Commanding District.

PILOT KNOB, *September 20, 1864.*

Lieutenant Pape, who was in command of the scout, has returned to Patterson with fifty more men. He says there were not more than 4,000 or 5,000 rebels in the fight. The report that Price was at Pocahontas was got from rebel wounded on the field. He places no confidence in the report. Bell was entirely surrounded, and had to charge through the rebels. He escaped them. Thinks they are moving in this direction.

JAMES WILSON,
Major, Commanding.

Brigadier-General EWING.

No. 60.

Reports of Maj. Samuel Montgomery, Sixth Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. SECOND BATTLN., SIXTH CAV. MISSOURI VOLS.,
Victoria, Mo., October 5, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to your instructions of the 3d instant I called in all of my command except the scout under Capt. R. D. Russell, and left Meramec bridge at 7 a. m. to-day. After marching six miles I met Captain Russell and party returning, who reports the result of his expedition as follows, viz: Captain Russell left Meramec bridge early on the morning of the 3d instant with thirty men, with instructions to march in the direction of Richwoods. He stopped for the night twelve miles from Richwoods, and resuming the march next morning before sunrise, when within about four miles of that place met several paroled Federal prisoners who belonged to the Potosi militia, and who were on their return home via Richwoods. They informed me that they left Price's headquarters Sunday morning, eight miles northwest of Union, and that Price's army was marching in the direction of Jefferson City, and was in such a hurry that he did not have time to parole all the prisoners. Captain Russell was informed by these men that there were three rebels at the next house. He sent five men after them; killed 2 and took 1 prisoner. One of the men that was killed stated that he had deserted the militia and joined the rebels, and was instantly shot by Lieutenant Smith. The one taken prisoner belongs to the Third Missouri (rebel) Cavalry, commanded by Colonel Greene. They pushed rapidly forward about a mile and met another party eighty strong. Charged and drove them in confusion three miles beyond Richwoods, killing 10, seriously wounding their captain and several others, captured 3 prisoners, all of whom belong to Marmaduke's command. About thirty threw down their arms and fled. The men went in like they were charging a McClellan meeting. One of the prisoners who seems to be well posted states that Colonel Coffee is at Fredericktown recruiting. He also states that there was a force of 300 under Douglass at Potosi, who were under orders to march that day to join the main force beyond Union. There is a rebel force reported at Tyler's Mills, on Big River, grinding. Number not known.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SAML. MONTGOMERY,
Major, Comdg. Second Battalion, Sixth Cav. Missouri Vols.

Col. J. H. BAKER,
Commanding Post Saint Louis, Saint Louis, Mo.

HDQRS. SECOND BATTLN., SIXTH CAV. MISSOURI VOLS.,
De Soto, Mo., October 8, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I left camp at this place at 5 p. m. on the 6th instant, with 200 men, for Potosi. After proceeding about ten miles learned there was a party of rebels between Lawson and Cadet Stations. I changed my course and marched for Cadet Station, which had not been burned as reported to me, but the stores were robbed and Mr. Marr carried off a conscript. I took their trail from that place and followed them to Tyler's Mills, on Big River, where I found a camp of 300 under Dick Berryman and the notorious Sam. Hilderbrand. Attacked their camp, scattering them in confusion in all directions, killing 21; number of wounded unknown; took 1 prisoner, belonging to Marmaduke's division, and recaptured Mr. Marr, who is a brother of Capt. James Marr, of the First Missouri Artillery. My loss, 1 man severely wounded through the breast. A portion of the party were the same that were driven from Richwoods on the morning of the 4th instant by Captain Russell. They had with them eleven who were wounded at that place. There was a large number of the citizens of that neighborhood present who were on very intimate and friendly terms with the rebels, still they were loud in their professions of loyalty upon our arrival. Prominent among them was a Mr. Simms, who has been buying horses for the Government for the past year; also Judge Ransom. I followed them to within eight miles of Farmington, when they became so scattered I could pursue them no farther. I learned there was no force at either Farmington or Pilot Knob, except hospital attendants at the latter place.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. MONTGOMERY,
Major, Comdg. Second Battalion, Sixth Cav. Missouri Vols.

Col. J. H. BAKER,
Commanding Post Saint Louis, Saint Louis, Mo.

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HDQRS. SECOND BATTLN., SIXTH CAV. MISSOURI VOLS.,
Benton Barracks, near Saint Louis, Mo., December 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In compliance with your verbal instructions I have the honor to report that in obedience to Special Orders, No. 87, headquarters Military Division of West Mississippi, dated New Orleans, La., August 6, 1864, received through intermediate headquarters, I marched with my command from Pilot Knob, Mo., on the 16th of August. Arriving at Saint Louis on the 19th, I reported to the commanding officer Saint Louis District and was ordered by him to report to Col. J. H. Baker, commanding post Saint Louis, who ordered me to Camp Gamble. I had a quantity of unserviceable arms and horses which it was necessary for me to dispose of before my departure for the Department of the Gulf. The property was duly inspected and ordered turned over by the proper officers. This being done I forwarded requisitions for new, but did not succeed in getting the order for horses for nearly one month. In the meantime my command was constantly on duty in the city with the exception of a detachment of twenty-five men at Meramec bridge. On the afternoon of the 2d of October, in compliance with instructions from Colonel Baker, I marched to Meramec bridge with thirty men, with directions to send a scout to Richwoods. The next day the remainder of my command joined me at the bridge with instructions

from Major-General Pleasonton, through Colonel Baker, for me to move to Pilot Knob, Mo., via Victoria or De Soto. On the 20th of October I received orders from General Ewing to return at once to Saint Louis. I was at that time at Pilot Knob. Arrived at Benton Barracks on the 25th. On the 26th received orders from General Ewing to proceed immediately by steam-boat up the Mississippi River to Cap-au-Gris, Lincoln County, Mo., and endeavor to overtake and destroy the Confederate bands of Wood and Dorsey. For want of transportation I took with me only 158 men, and landed according to directions on the morning of the 27th. On the 29th arrived at Wentzville, Mo., and communicated by telegraph with General Ewing, who instructed me to return immediately to Saint Louis without something special offered for me to do. At 10 o'clock that night I received a telegram from the commanding officer at Saint Charles that the bushwhackers had captured a train of cars on the North Missouri Railroad by running the engine into a ditch some twenty-three miles above. I immediately marched to where the depredations had been committed; reached the place early next morning. I pursued them to within ten miles of Hermann, where they turned off the road in a northern direction. I continued on to Hermann and crossed the river with my command. After which I received a telegram from General Ewing directing me to pursue the enemy if there was any prospect of catching them. I considered the prospect so unfavorable that I did not recross the river, but directed Captain Kirby to march to Saint Louis as rapidly as possible while I took the cars and reported in person to General Ewing, who ordered me to march to Warrenton with the remainder of my command which was left back at Benton Barracks, also ordered Captain Kirby to join me at that place as soon as possible. On the 12th of November was ordered to Benton Barracks by General Ewing to report to him upon arrival for the purpose of complying with Special Orders, No. 87, headquarters Military Division of West Mississippi. While at Warrenton I requested of district headquarters that a board of survey be appointed for the purpose of examining a number of saddles which had been drawn at Saint Louis Arsenal in September, 1864, and which were entirely worthless. The board was ordered as soon as my command returned to the Barracks, but I did not get the report for twelve days. Also a number of horses, all that had been rode with the new saddles, had become unserviceable by reason of sore backs, and it was necessary to have them inspected and condemned, as I could not transfer them without it. I have not yet received the report of the inspecting officer, which I am now waiting for in order to dispose of my unserviceable property, and make requisitions for new.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAML. MONTGOMERY,
Major, Comdg. Second Battalion, Sixth Cav. Missouri Vols.

Capt. FRANK ENO,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of the Missouri, Saint Louis, Mo.

No. 61.

Report of Lieut. Samuel R. Kelley, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

IRONTON, MO., *October 22, 1864.*

SIR: I, in command of a detachment of forty men of the Third and Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry, left Pilot Knob, Mo., on the

17th instant. Moved in the direction of Lesterville; killed several guerrillas on the way there. Crossed Black River to Logan's Creek; moved down it to Carter's Mill; then came up to Colonel Pollock, who was in command of some fifty rebels. They fired heavy for some minutes, then broke to run. We pursued them for some two miles, shooting one down every now and then. They fled in all directions, with a loss of 9 killed on the ground. I returned to Ironton, Mo., on the evening of the 21st instant, having killed 16. Turned over to the quartermaster six horses. No loss on our part.

Major, I am, your obedient servant,

SAML. R. KELLEY,

First Lieut. Company L, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

Major MONTGOMERY,

Commanding Post, Pilot Knob, Mo.

No. 62.

Report of Capt. William C. F. Montgomery, Battery H, Second Missouri Light Artillery.

HDQRS. BATTERY H, SECOND MISSOURI LIGHT ARTY.,
November 14, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 21st of September I received orders from headquarters Saint Louis, Mo., to march to Pilot Knob and report to the commanding officer at that post for duty. Tuesday evening, 5 o'clock, I started from Saint Louis, Mo., to Pilot Knob, Mo., on the evening train. On the morning of the 22d I reached the above-named place and was directed by Major Wilson, commanding officer of the post, to select a suitable camp for my battery, which was done in a short time. At that time we had flying reports concerning the movements of the rebel army. At retreat on the 23d I was ordered by Major Wilson to have my battery ready for action at a moment's warning. At tattoo I had the horses harnessed and hitched, cannoneers and drivers at their posts. We had the same order and acted likewise the two following nights. At 1 p. m. Sunday, September 25, the pickets ran in and reported the enemy advancing rapidly in strong force on the Fredericktown road. I gave orders to harness and hitch, which was done inside of ten minutes, all ready for action. This proved to be a false alarm. The horses remained harnessed through the night. Next morning, September 26, the rebels were discovered in small force advancing on Arcadia, two miles southwest of Ironton. Brigadier-General Ewing arrived at 1 p. m.; assumed command of the forces at Pilot Knob. Major Wilson was ordered with the cavalry and one section of my battery, Lieutenant Simonton in command. The section remained in the front till 10 p. m., when it returned to the fort with the other two sections. We immediately set to work constructing platforms for the remaining four guns. Tuesday, September 27, at 3 a. m., Lieutenant Simonton was again ordered to the front with his section, the other guns being mounted ready for action. Our force was soon driven in. The section under Lieutenant Simonton took position on the north side of the fort. The enemy then opened fire on us from the east end of Shepherd's Mountain with two large guns, 12-pounder Napoleons. We fired occasional shots from the fort to silence their guns and drive them from the sides of the moun-

tain, where they were trying to form lines of battle. About 2 p. m. 27th the enemy succeeded in mounting two guns on the top of Shepherd's Mountain, where it was little trouble to get our exact range. They fired one gun from that position. We then opened on them with seven pieces from the fort. The charge was then made by the enemy. Lieutenant Simonton then opened fire on their lines advancing from the side of Shepherd's Mountain, scattering and breaking their lines successively, the four guns inside doing excellent firing with shell until the rebels charged within 150 yards. We then used canister, double charge. The enemy's lines came within thirty paces of the fort. Lieutenant Simonton held his position, doing excellent service, until the enemy were within sixty yards of the fort. He was then ordered inside. Just as the lead team of the right piece reached the gate the two lead horses were shot down, wounding the driver, blocked up the gap so they were unable to get the section inside. The lieutenant ordered all the men to take care of themselves. The men all came in except one, who was captured. The horses then were beginning to stampede, when I ordered them to shoot the horses with their revolvers. They were soon disabled so they could not take any carriages away. These men then used their pistols and muskets until the battle was nearly over, when they cut the horses loose and brought in some of the guns and some of the horses. During the charge I lost in killed 1 sergeant, Isaiah B. West, and 3 privates, viz, E. F. Hall, James M. Lee, William F. Lee. We had 3 men accidentally burned and 3 wounded, but none of them seriously; will all soon recover. At sunset the firing ceased and the wounded were taken to the hospital and the dead properly cared for. During the engagement I lost 40 horses killed and wounded.

That night at 12 o'clock General Ewing ordered me to fill the limber chests of the pieces, select the best horses, leave the caissons, and get ready to march immediately. We were soon ready to march; we drew the caissons near the magazine where they would likely be blown up, leaving 100 rounds of ammunition in them that we could not carry. At 3 a. m. Wednesday, September 28, we silently drove out, taking with us all the horses and mounted cannoneers on them. We marched thirty-one miles that day, stopped at Webster, rested till midnight, when we started, feeling our way in the darkness of the night, raining and blowing so it was a difficult matter to travel. We then had thirty-five miles to march to Leasburg on the Pacific Railroad. At 8 a. m. the rebels attacked our rear guard, driving it in. Lieutenant Simonton formed his section in the road ready for action, but the enemy never came in sight. We marched three miles farther and we were again attacked from both sides and from the rear. We formed the battery in the edge of the field, firing lively from two sections, driving the rebels all out of sight. We then marched within three miles of Leasburg, when we were again attacked. We formed the battery on the hill-side, fired a few shots from Lieutenant Simonton's section; we again marched for Leasburg, infantry in line of battle. By this means we kept them back till we reached the station, where we formed our line and took up quarters for the night; sheltered the horses in the ditch by the track. By this time it was dark, and the rebels still firing at us from the brush; there was no time lost in preparing breast-works to shelter the infantry, who were so worn out that they were unable to march farther. At 9 p. m. the train came in from Saint Louis. We were ordered to dismount the guns and load them into the cars. The pieces, carriages, and harness were soon loaded. By this time it was discovered that the road was cut above and below. We could do nothing more for a move, so we

commenced to unload and mount the guns again and made the necessary preparations for a morning attack. At 10 a. m. the enemy came in sight but made no assault except skirmishing, which they kept up continually. At 12 p. m. we started for Rolla, Mo.; reached that place the same evening. October 5 I was ordered to report to General McNeil; started with his command for the defense of Jefferson City. I left one section and the worn-out men and horses at Rolla, [under] Lieutenant Simonton. After a fatiguing march of two days and a half we reached Jefferson City. When we arrived the rebels were crossing the Osage River nine miles out; we took a position, but the enemy never came inside the lines. October 8 I was ordered to send one section with a division of cavalry, commanded by General Sanborn, in pursuit of the enemy. Lieutenant Smiley was sent with his section; next morning he was in an engagement near Russellville, the same evening at California, Mo. Next day near Boonville, October 10, I was ordered to the front with a cavalry brigade commanded by Colonel Catherwood. We arrived at California that evening at 4.30 o'clock. The same night at 7 o'clock we were ordered forward twelve miles to Pisgah, on the Boonville road; next morning we joined General Sanborn's division, marched twelve miles on the Boonville road, where we learned the enemy was in full retreat toward Lexington. We then marched for Georgetown, Mo., distance thirty-three miles; arrived there next day, October 12, at 1 p. m. We then marched fifteen miles on the Lexington road. On the 15th we fell back to Blackwater [on] Georgetown road. On the 17th marched to Kirkpatrick's Mill with one section; sent Lieutenant Smiley to Sedalia with the other. October 18 marched at 2 a. m. for Lexington, stopped at sunset eight miles southwest of the town, then marched at 7 o'clock for the city. Drove the enemy's pickets from town, killing and capturing a number of them. That night we lay by the horses till day, when we again renewed the march for Independence. October 22 we reached the Little Blue River, where we found the bridge burned. Assisted by the cavalry we went to work and constructed a temporary bridge to effect a crossing with the horses and artillery. By this time our advance was skirmishing with the enemy's rear guard. The battery was soon across the stream and on the march on double-quick for two or three miles, when we found the rebels had fallen back to the suburbs of the city, where they soon opened fire on us with two pieces of artillery. I took position then with one section of my battery, fired twelve rounds, when they began to retreat. Lieutenant Smiley then reported to me with his section, which was immediately sent to the front with Colonel Winslow's cavalry brigade, Sixteenth Army Corps. At 9 p. m. I was ordered out from Independence with General McNeil's brigade, on the Little Santa Fé road. Next morning at 5 o'clock the battle opened on the Big Blue. Lieutenant Smiley was in action from 8 to 11 a. m. October 23, using canister most of the time. Our brigade was formed on the left of the road, and I fired into the enemy's retreating column as they passed, with good effect.

October 24 we marched for Fort Scott, Kans., in pursuit of the enemy. We traveled fifty-six miles to the Marais des Cygnes River, in Kansas, by 2 a. m. October 25; drove the rebel pickets at 3 o'clock in the morning; Colonel Gravely's regiment had the advance. Lieutenant Smiley, firing several shots with his section; captured one piece of artillery on the bank of the Marais des Cygnes River. The enemy then formed a line of battle on the Osage River. Lieutenant Smiley moved his section forward and participated in the engagement, using double charge of canister. They then moved forward to the top of the

ridge, two miles farther, in the advance, and fired several shots at their retreating columns. I moved forward at a trot, which we kept up for seven miles, where the enemy was again formed and our cavalry driving them in a line of battle. We opened fire with the entire battery, breaking their lines first on the right, then on the left, then right center, when they formed column and retreated. By this time night came on, the horses were giving out, unable to travel farther. We were then ordered to Fort Scott for supplies, as we had not fed for thirty-six hours, and had no rations for three days except one hard cracker to the man. October 27, at 4 o'clock in the morning, Lieutenant Smiley's section was ordered out with General Sanborn's brigade to the front, marching in two days eighty-six miles. Arrived at Newtonia and took part in the battle at that place, firing twenty-two rounds. October 28 I was ordered to Warrensburg, forming part of the escort of prisoners, artillery, and other property captured by the cavalry division commanded by Major-General Pleasonton from the Confederate army commanded by Major-General Price, a distance of ninety-five miles. I was then ordered to Saint Louis, Mo., by way of Jefferson City. Lieutenant Smiley also to Saint Louis by way of Springfield and Rolla. Arrived in the city on the 9th with all my guns, seventy head of horses. Left my caissons in Fort Davidson, Pilot Knob, Mo., by order of Brigadier-General Ewing. My battery wagons, traveling forge, and transportation wagon, eighteen mules and fifteen head of horses were captured near Potosi, the 27th of September, 1864.

Traveling in all over 1,200 miles, expended 1,700 rounds of ammunition; took part in ten different battles.

My loss is as follows: 4 men killed, 3 wounded, 3 accidentally burned, 10 captured, 3 missing; 25 horses killed, 30 wounded, 15 captured, 10 worn out and abandoned on the road.

I am, colonel, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. C. F. MONTGOMERY,
Commanding Battery H, Second Missouri Light Artillery.

Col. N. COLE,
Chief of Artillery, Department of the Missouri.

No. 63.

Report of Brig. Gen. Edward C. Pike, Enrolled Missouri Militia, commanding First Military District.

HDQRS. FIRST MIL. DIST., ENROLLED MISSOURI MIL.,
Saint Louis, November 3, 1864.

I have the honor to submit the following report of operations of the militia under my command during thirty-seven days from September 25 to October 31, inclusive:

Pursuant to orders from State headquarters on the 25th of September, I ordered all the militia of the First District Enrolled Missouri Militia, consisting of three companies of cavalry and thirteen regiments of infantry, to parade at Camp Sheridan on the 26th for active service. The call was responded to with great unanimity on the part of those men who remained liable to military duty, but finding most of my regiments mere skeletons from the operations of a law of this State that allows freedom from military duty by payment of a small sum of money, I was obliged to order the consolidation of companies and regi-

ments, thus reducing the regiments to six and eight companies and the number of regiments to ten, aggregating 4,500 men, which I formed into three brigades, as follows: The First Regiment, Col. W. P. Fenn; Second Regiment, Col. E. Stafford; Eightieth Regiment, Col. L. J. Rankin; Eighty-fifth Regiment, Col. W. J. A. Smith, forming the First Brigade, numbering in the aggregate 1,750 men, to be commanded by Brig. Gen. Madison Miller, who was ordered to proceed without delay with his command and dispose of it so as to effectually protect the bridges and fords of the Meramec. Immediately after issuing the above to General Miller he was detached from my command and has since reported directly to district headquarters United States. The Second Brigade consisted of the Third Regiment, Colonel Vahlkamp; Sixth Regiment, Col. T. Niederweiser; Tenth Regiment, Col. H. Hildebrand, commanded by Brig. Gen. C. D. Wolff; aggregate, 1,200 men. The Third Brigade consisted of the National Guard of Saint Louis, Lieut. Col. W. B. Parker; Eleventh Regiment, Lieut. Col. E. Beckman; Thirteenth Regiment, Col. J. B. Marcy, commanded by Brig. Gen. George F. Meyers; aggregate, 1,500 men.

Pursuant to orders from district headquarters the three companies of cavalry commanded by Maj. F. Walter were ordered to encamp at Fort No. 6, and report to Col. J. H. Baker, commanding post Saint Louis. On Friday, the 30th of September, the necessary equipments for the Second and Third Brigades having been received and the division fully organized, the three companies of cavalry having reported back, I broke camp and with six regiments of infantry and three companies of cavalry took up the line of march at 4 p. m. October 1 along the turnpike to Laclede, where at 7 p. m. I encamped and immediately reported to Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, at Kirkwood, for orders. On the 3d of October I moved forward and encamped at Kirkwood. On the 4th of October Capt. S. H. Julian, commanding Battery I, Second Missouri Artillery, reported to me with his battery and was ordered to proceed along the turnpike to Gray's Summit, escorted by the cavalry of Major Walter's command, and I embarked with my infantry on the cars, arriving at Franklin at 6 p. m. During the embarkation at Kirkwood a terrific rain-storm came on, pouring down with the greatest vehemence for more than an hour, and drenching the men who were in line or placed on open platform cars. Yet all orders were obeyed with alacrity and the embarkation was completed in an orderly and soldierly manner. At Franklin my division was kept in line or lying on their arms for twenty-four hours in momentary anticipation of orders to march against the enemy. On the evening of the 5th, however, orders were received to go into camp, and on the 6th the division was reviewed by Governor Willard P. Hall. On the 7th orders were received to take up the line of march west, and notwithstanding the absence of necessary transportation the division moved at 12 m., every man apparently pleased at the prospect of at last joining in the pursuit of the invaders. At Port William on the Springfield road we made a junction with three brigades of the Right Wing of Sixteenth Army Corps, and moved along in their rear toward Union, where we encamped at 9 p. m., Captain Julian, with his battery and the cavalry, having reported and joined us during the day. The lateness of the hour to which it was necessary to march in order to reach proper camping-grounds caused some straggling of the men, who from inexperience and want of proper transportation had encumbered themselves with surplus articles of clothing and an undue quantity of subsistence. During the night, however, all came up, and at 8 a. m. on the 8th we again took up the line of march after waiting

one hour for troops of the Sixteenth Army Corps to pass and take the advance as ordered, we having left them three miles in the rear the night previous. The march during the 8th was attended with great success, the men marching in good order. At 4 p. m. I received orders from General Smith to go into camp at Saint John's Creek, the advance under the immediate supervision of the general proceeding to Boeuf Creek, five miles farther. On the morning of the 9th I received orders to march my division up and join the advance at Boeuf Creek, which I did at 12 m., proceeding through their camp and taking the advance directly on the road to Mount Sterling, but was ordered into camp, and at midnight received orders to return with my command to Saint Louis, the cavalry and artillery to go direct by turnpike and the infantry to Washington, where I was to ask for transportation by rail, and here, colonel, I may be allowed to state that the disappointment of many of my officers and men was very great at being obliged to countermarch at a time when they supposed there was a prospect of soon meeting and punishing the invaders of our State and homes. However, at 9 a. m. on the 10th, the troops of General Smith having passed on to the front, the First Division, Enrolled Missouri Militia, took up the line of march east to Washington Cross-Roads, where the infantry marched to the left and the cavalry and artillery proceeded toward Union, arriving in Saint Louis on the 13th, the infantry under my command encamping on the evening of the 10th on Saint John's Creek, ten miles south of Washington. On the 11th I moved into Washington and encamped, assuming command of the post, which had been evacuated that morning by the Fifty-fourth Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, Col. D. Q. Gale commanding. I immediately reported as ordered to Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing, jr., commanding Saint Louis District, for orders. Meantime, receiving order from department headquarters to send one brigade to Jefferson City, on the 13th, I ordered Brig. Gen. C. D. Wolff to embark with his command on the steamers Bright Star, Zephyr, and Jeannie Roberts, and on the 14th they left.

On the 14th I was ordered from department headquarters to select proper ground and at once proceed to fortify a supply depot at Washington. I selected the ground about one-quarter of a mile below the town and immediately made requisition for the necessary intrenching and other tools, which were promptly forwarded. On the 16th, however, the order to fortify was countermanded, and I was ordered to use my command to protect and forward promptly all supplies received at the post for the front. On the 18th the cavalry and artillery of my command reported back from Saint Louis and went into camp at Washington. On the 23d of October, the railroad being repaired and cars running through to Hermann, all supplies were sent to that point, and I ordered Brig. Gen. George F. Meyers to detail one company of infantry to garrison Washington and proceed with cavalry, artillery, and remaining infantry, consisting of six companies of the Eleventh Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, to Hermann and assume command at that place, which he did on the 24th, and on the same day I removed my headquarters to Franklin and, pursuant to orders from General Ewing, assumed command of all the troops on the line of the railroad from Hermann to Franklin and detachments at bridges on southwest branch Pacific Railroad. I remained in command at Franklin until the 31st ultimo, when my division, except the cavalry and artillery, was relieved from service by telegraphic orders. I immediately ordered General Meyers to turn over the command at Hermann to Capt. S. H. Julian, Battery I, Second Missouri Artillery Volunteers, and proceed with

the balance of his command to Saint Louis. I turned over the command at Franklin to Col. D. Q. Gale, commanding Fifty-fourth Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, and on the 1st instant arrived in Saint Louis with my staff and Company A, First Battalion Cavalry.

For detailed report of the operations of the militia of this district under Generals Miller and Wolff while detached from my command, I respectfully refer to their returns at district headquarters United States.

In closing this report of a brief and hastily inaugurated campaign of the militia under my command I cannot mention in terms of too high praise the valuable assistance rendered me by the following officers: Brig. Gen. George F. Meyers; Lieut. Col. L. F. Fix, volunteer aide-de-camp; Col. John Knapp, aide-de-camp to the Governor; Maj. Julius Pitzman; Capt. Gustav Cohrs, assistant provost-marshal. Many others are worthy of all praise, and I am sure that if my division had been so fortunate as to meet the enemy all would have done nobly.

Very respectfully,

E. C. PIKE,
Brig. Gen., Comdg. First Mil. Dist., Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Col. JOHN V. DU BOIS,
Chief of Staff.

No. 64.

Report of Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Kansas.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, January —, 1865.

GENERAL: I present a general and full report of the circumstances connected with my recent campaign against the rebel General Sterling Price, believing the dangers, incidents, conflicts, and final success deserve a special record.

The former conflicts I have had with Price's force made me familiar with his purpose, often declared to his followers, of making another effort to establish himself on the Missouri River. His recent success on the Red River and at Camden, in Arkansas, inspired him with new energies and induced him to attempt this design, by following up his campaign through Louisiana and Arkansas by operating through Missouri and Kansas. He therefore moved northward through Arkansas with an army of about 15,000 men and twenty pieces of artillery, augmenting his forces by conscripting, and by voluntary acquisitions, induced by prospect of plunder and revenge. His force was all mounted, and, except his conscripts, very well equipped. I had taken most of my troops far west of the Missouri border, where I had been in pursuit of Indians on the plains; and I had ordered Major-General Blunt to continue the search beyond Fort Larned, returning myself to these headquarters on the 17th of September, 1864. Most of my forces were therefore engaged in active operations several hundred miles west of the portion of Kansas threatened by Price's movements. On the day of my arrival I telegraphed yourself, General Rosecrans, and Governor Carney the substance of the dispatches concerning Price's movements which I found on my table, from General Thayer and others, on the Arkansas, "that General Price, with 15,000 men, had crossed the Arkansas River near Dardanelle," and suggested to the Governor that I might

"again have to ask the militia of Southern Kansas to aid in checking rebel approaches." Some field-works had been erected on the eastern border of Kansas, and I directed these to be armed and others immediately constructed, making the towns of Lawrence, Olathe, Paola, and Fort Scott much more secure against raids, and therefore allowing me to use volunteers and militia that would otherwise be needed to guard these places against bushwhackers. I also sent orders to General Blunt to stop his pursuit of Indians and come with all possible speed with such troops as could be spared to Council Grove, so as to be available against rebel invasion. The Second Colorado Regiment, stationed in the edge of Missouri, headquarters at Kansas City, had been ordered to report to me, but at the request of General Rosecrans, and in view of their convenient location, I allowed them to remain where they were. The Fifteenth, Sixteenth, and Eleventh Kansas Regiments Volunteer Cavalry and fractions of the Third Wisconsin were distributed in Southeast Kansas, convenient for concentration at any time and place. The battalion of Colonel Drake, 100-days' men, whose time was nearly out, and a portion of a new negro battery, all amounting to about 4,000 men, was all the available volunteers that I could command. Fortunately I had a large number of mountain howitzers attached to my cavalry regiments, and also three or four batteries of field guns, which were ordered forward and in readiness, so that, in view of the coming crisis, I had upward of thirty pieces of artillery ready for any field and so equipped as to move with the usual rapidity of cavalry. Heavy siege guns were distributed and well arranged at Fort Leavenworth, Leavenworth, Lawrence, Olathe, Paola, and Fort Scott. These preparatory arrangements were in full progress when I received your dispatch of the 24th of September, directing me that all my available force not required against Western Indians should be thrown south on the Fort Scott routes, and adding "large re-enforcements have been sent to the Arkansas to cut off the enemy's retreat." My reply to you, dated the 26th of September, informing you that "my main dependence must be on militia if Price's force come westward," was predicated on the well-founded supposition that I could not draw troops from the remote districts of my command (Upper Arkansas, Colorado, or Nebraska) in time to meet the probable crisis arising from Price's march. Fortunately I had, through the active exertions of Governor Carney, secured and distributed arms and equipments for a large portion of the militia. But another difficulty presented itself. The whole country was engaged in the great National and State political campaign, the very crisis of which seemed to culminate with Price's progress through Missouri. Motives, measures, and men were all distrusted. The Senators, Governor, and people, commanding, composing, and controlling this militia reserve were all fiercely engaged in this political strife. No time for using the militia could be more unfavorable. The ballot-box, not the bayonet, was the weapon sought by the militia, and it required the greatest exertions to draw attention of officers and men from the political to the military necessities of the hour. The work of organizing, arming, and mobilizing an army in thirty days under these circumstances was therefore a most difficult and perplexing duty, requiring the exercise of responsibilities which I hope will receive the approval or indulgence of my superiors, to whom I reported by telegraph almost daily. The enemy steadily advanced from his crossing of the Arkansas on the 8th of September, moving northeast through the State, striking the rich valley of Black River, where he increased and improved his forces by devastating that region

of country. Following up that valley through Pocahontas, he entered Missouri near the southeast corner, and moved north through the Iron Mountain defiles, meeting no resistance until he reached the vicinity of Pilot Knob, Mo. Here, on the 28th [27th] of September, he met a gallant resistance by General Ewing, who repulsed his attack on the fort at Pilot Knob, but subsequently evacuated and fell back, allowing Price to move on to Franklin and Washington, striking the Missouri River at the latter place. This intelligence of the progress of the enemy came to me through Major-General Rosecrans, commander of the Department of the Missouri, General Thayer, who commanded at Fort Smith, Ark, and also from scouts sent out by Colonel Blair, who commanded at Fort Scott, keeping me fully informed. During the period to which I have referred I was annoyed by a rebel approach under General Gano, who came within seventy miles of my southern line with a large force and captured a large train at Cabin Creek belonging to General Steele's department. The Indians on the plains also continued to occupy my troops on the overland routes and alarm the people throughout the Territories and western portion of Kansas. As the enemy at Washington, on the Missouri, had reached the turning point of his northern movement (crossing the Missouri not being rational), leaving most of our Federal forces in his rear and right flank, his movement westward toward my department seemed inevitable. General Rosecrans was re-enforced by troops under General Mower, General Smith, and 100-days' regiments from Illinois, but all these being on the other side of Price the greater the number the more certain and expeditious would be the movement toward my department. The crisis as to the direction of the enemy's movement occurred about the 2d of October, and I telegraphed Colonel Ford, who occupied the district of Kansas City (and therefore my front, in view of the approach of the enemy), to send forward scouts and keep in constant intercourse with General Brown, whose district extended down the Missouri, on the south side of the Missouri River. On the same day I was informed that General Fisk had moved from the north side with a considerable force, to save Jefferson City from the enemy. On the 4th I received the following dispatch from General Brown:

JEFFERSON CITY, *October 4, 1864—2.50 p. m.*

Major-General CURTIS:

The rebels are on the road between me and Saint Louis, and have cut off all communications. They attacked Hermann last evening and had three pieces of artillery. They have captured railroad train and three locomotives. It is said they also captured four steam ferry-boats. If you support me it must be by direct movement down the river as quickly as possible. Am doing all I can to be ready to defend the place, but the situation is bad. I want infantry and artillery. The rebels have a large force. The appearances are that the enemy are moving up the river.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General.

At 3.55 p. m. he added that General Fisk's command are moving to my support. When he arrives I shall have 6,000 men and eight small pieces of artillery. I telegraphed this intelligence through various routes to General Rosecrans, but lines being down, could get no intelligence through. I took the liberty to suggest to General Brown that

Price should be checked at the Gasconade River. Bridges and boats on the Gasconade and Osage should be beyond all possible use to him. Destroying an eastern span of railroad bridge may be necessary. River too low, and boats too scarce for my movements. Rains will raise streams and Price must be captured. Do not allow your force to be captured. If too small better fall back, but stand as long as you can safely.

On the 5th of October, learning that Price had crossed the Gasconade, I wrote the Governor of Kansas, urging the immediate call of the militia, which letter was subsequently made part of his proclamation and will be set out in this report.

CHAPTER II.—MOVEMENT TO FEEL AND EMBARRASS THE ENEMY.

General Fisk advised me of his junction with General Brown at Jefferson City on the 5th of October, and also desired me to send him a battery. On the 6th he reported his advance in skirmishing had met with some loss, and the enemy was coming forward. General Rosecrans telegraphed as follows:

HEADQUARTERS,
Saint Louis, October 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS:

You will wish to know our latest [news]. Ewing blew up Pilot Knob and made good [his] retreat to Rolla with his battery, losing only killed, wounded, and stragglers by the way. Price was reported crossing the Gasconade yesterday on the old stage road to Jefferson City. McNeil and Sanborn finding their aim moved [with] their mounted force to Jefferson City and will hurt Price directly.*

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

Col. Chester Harding, with 450 men, arrived from Saint Joseph on steamer West Wind, and I directed Maj. S. S. Curtis to take the steamboat Benton and assist in the effort to get this force forward, reconnoiter the country, and bring away stores from Lexington. All boats were directed to protect their pilot-houses and engineer rooms, and these boats were especially guarded and directed to move with great caution if they proceeded below Kansas City, which they did. This movement was retarded by low water, and rebel force in front checked their farther progress at Glasgow, where Colonel Harding took the command and tried to hold the position. Meantime, the enemy moving west of Glasgow, Major Curtis with the Benton and a few soldiers and the crew fought their way back, reporting the position and progress of Price's army. The report of Major Curtis, marked A,† shows the thrilling incidents of this expedition, when several of the enemy were killed and wounded and we saved the boat and crew with only one man wounded. On the 7th I received the following from General Fisk:

JEFFERSON CITY, *October 7, 1864.*

Major-General CURTIS:

We have fought the enemy sharply from the Moreau bridge on the Bolton Ferry road, doing them considerable damage. Our loss as yet inconsiderable. We are withdrawing into the trenches; a large force investing; no news of re-enforcements. Will give them the best fight we can and may God give us victory.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

On the 8th I wrote Governor Carney urging the proclamation calling out the militia. He had personally urged the reasonable probability that the force under General Rosecrans would be sufficient to overwhelm Price before he could reach us, and very earnestly hoped that the great expense and inconvenience of a general call of the Kansas people might be averted. But the advance of Price continued, leaving

*As sent by Rosecrans this last clause reads—Will hurt Price decidedly.
†See p. 530.

Jefferson City on his flank without any great efforts to take the gallant troops that held it, and on the 9th of October the Governor of Kansas issued his proclamation, which I immediately promulgated in the following General Orders:

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
No. 53. } *Fort Leavenworth, October 9, 1864.*

Governor Carney has issued a proclamation calling out the militia of the State as follows:

"PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR.

"STATE OF KANSAS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
"*Topeka, October 8, 1864.*

"The State is in peril. Price and his rebel hosts threaten it with invasion. Kansas must be ready to hurl them back at any cost. The necessity is urgent. The extent of that necessity the subjoined communications from Major-General Curtis to me will establish:

'HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
'*Fort Leavenworth, October 5, 1864.*

'His Excellency Governor THOMAS CARNEY:

'The rebel forces under General Price have made a farther advance westward, crossing the Gasconade, and are now at the railroad bridge on the Osage, about fifteen miles below Jefferson City. Large Federal forces about Saint Louis and below tend to drive him toward Kansas. Other motives also will induce his fiendish followers to seek spoils and vengeance in this State. To prevent this and join in efforts to expel these invaders from the country I desire that you will call out the entire militia force, with their best arms and ammunition, for a period of thirty days. Each man should be provided with two blankets or a buffalo robe for comfort and a haversack for carrying provisions. No change of clothing is necessary. I want this force assembled on the border, mainly at Olathe, as soon as possible. For that purpose let farmers' teams with provisions and forage be employed to hurry them forward. I will do all in my power to provide provisions and public transportation, but hope every man will be as self-sustaining as possible and ready to join me in privations, hardships, and dangers to aid our comrades in Missouri in destroying these rebel forces before they again desolate the fair fields of Kansas. It is necessary to suspend business and labor until we are assured our property and earnings are not within the grasp of unscrupulous marauders and murderers.

'Confidently believing, Governor, that Your Excellency and all loyal citizens will concert with me in the propriety of this very important demand and give me your hearty co-operation and assistance,

'I have the honor to be, your very obedient servant,

'S. R. CURTIS,
'*Major-General, Commanding Department.*'

'Governor CARNEY:

'The line is now cut this side Sedalia. This indicates a rebel move by somebody west or south. Hurry up the militia.

'S. R. CURTIS,
'*Major-General.*'

'FORT LEAVENWORTH, *October 8, 1864.*

'Governor CARNEY:

'I request that you issue the call. Let the militia turn out. If not needed they will, of course, be discharged. Their call and collection would enable us at least to give an impetus to Price's departure. In your prompt responses to my requests heretofore I am sure we have saved the State from desolation; let us do it now. The enemy is now near Sedalia, and a fight is expected there to-night. They have burned Syracuse, La Mine, and Otterville depots to-day. You see they seem moving steadily westward. Delay is ruinous.

'S. R. CURTIS,
'*Major-General.*'

"Kansans, rally! You will do so, as you have always promptly done when your soil has been invaded. The call this time will come to you louder and stronger because you know the foe will seek to glut his vengeance upon you. Meet him, then, at the threshold and strike boldly; strike as one man against him. Let all

business be suspended. The work to be done now is to protect the State against marauder and murderer. Until this is accomplished we must lead a soldier's life and do a soldier's duty. Men of Kansas, rally! One blow, one earnest, united blow will foil the invader and save you. Who will falter? Who is not ready to meet the peril? Who will not defend his home and the State? To arms then! To arms, and the tented field until the rebel foe shall be baffled and beaten back!

"THOMAS CARNEY,
"Governor."

"N. B.—Major-General Deitzler will lead the brave men of Kansas and issue the necessary orders. Commanding officers of brigades and battalions will see that their respective commands are in readiness for immediate service.

"THOMAS CARNEY,
"Governor."

MAJOR-GENERAL DEITZLER'S ORDER.

In pursuance of this call of the Governor, the militia of Kansas will turn out and rendezvous immediately as follows:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —. HEADQUARTERS KANSAS STATE MILITIA, *Topeka, Kans., October 9, 1864.*

In pursuance of the proclamation of the Commander-in-Chief of the 8th instant, the militia of Kansas will turn out and rendezvous immediately at the points indicated below: Doniphan, Brown, Nemaha, and Marshall Counties, at Atchison, under Brig. Gen. Byron Sherry; Atchison, Leavenworth, Jefferson, Jackson, Pottawatomie, Riley, Davis, Wabaunsee, Shawnee, Douglas, and Johnson Counties, at Olathe, under Brig. Gen. M. S. Grant; Wyandotte, at Wyandotte, under Maj. E. S. Hubbard; Miami, Osage, Franklin, Morris, and Lyon Counties, at Paola, under Brig. Gen. W. H. M. Fishback; Linn, Anderson, and Coffey Counties, at Mound City, under Brig. Gen. S. N. Wood; Bourbon, Allen, and Woodson Counties, at Fort Scott. Commanders of brigades and regiments will promptly prepare their respective commands for active service for thirty days, unless sooner discharged, and see that each man is supplied with two blankets, a tin cup, knife and fork, and a haversack, and also a coffee pot and frying pan for every five men. Let each regiment and detachment bring its own transportation and all the rations possible, but there must be no delay on any account. The General Government will undoubtedly pay all proper charges for such transportation and supplies, and will furnish rations and forage as far and as soon as possible, at the points indicated in this order. Let each man come with such arms as are at hand and a full supply of ammunition. As this campaign will be a short one, no change of clothing will be necessary. Until further orders the headquarters of the militia will be at Olathe, to which point all returns and communications will be sent.

By order of George W. Deitzler, major-general Kansas State Militia:

JOHN T. MORTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

All Federal officers in this department will aid in giving circulation and success to this effort to concentrate troops for immediate service. Quartermasters and commissaries will aid to the utmost of their abilities to have requisite provisions accumulated as fast as possible. An earnest and united movement should animate officers and men, volunteer and militia. Let business and personal strife be suspended, partisan discussions and political animosities avoided, and instead of impatience, fault-finding, and detraction, too common among raw recruits, let every man display the fortitude, patience, and endurance which distinguish the patriotic soldier engaged in the defense of his home and his country. The sooner this call is met the more certain will be its success; and the general earnestly appeals to soldiers and citizens to unite all their moral and physical energies in this effort to stifle the fiendish hordes that again threaten the people of Kansas and the peace of our country.

By command of Major-General Curtis:

C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Some defects in the militia law had on former occasions troubled officers in the enforcement of their calls. There was also a large colored population, and many of certain ages that were exempt from the militia organization. I therefore determined to strengthen the force and effect of the Governor's call by proclaiming martial law in Kansas

and in the neighborhoods where I expected to confront and pursue the enemy. For it is proper for me to say that my experience in a former campaign against Price, made under your immediate orders, in the winter of 1861-'62, induced the theory and execution of my plans for confronting and pursuing him on this occasion; and although my force seemed irregular and inadequate, I was inspired with singular confidence in the manner and matter of my success. In further efforts, therefore, to rally an adequate force, I issued the following order declaring martial law:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 54. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS, *Fort Leavenworth, Kans., October 10, 1864.*

The better to carry out the object of the Governor's proclamation, issued this morning, and to secure prompt and united military organization and action, martial law is proclaimed to extend throughout the State of Kansas and the country occupied by the troops moving therefrom, and all men, white or black, between the ages of eighteen and sixty will arm and attach themselves to some of the organizations of troops for temporary military service. In all the principal cities and towns business houses will close as directed by the Governor's proclamation, except where general officers may give leave to such houses and special establishments as may be considered necessary for the public subsistence and health. As this order is only designed to continue while danger of invasion is apprehended, the proper functions of civil officers will not be disturbed, and especially courts of justice and their processes will not be interrupted by the military authorities. All troops, volunteer and militia, are clothed with the powers and are subject to the duties and penalties prescribed in the Articles of War, and soldiers and citizens must expect very summary punishment of crime, and burning, robbing, and stealing in the field will be severely and promptly punished. Private property and peaceable citizens must be protected. Our object is Price and his followers. His forces are now reported as retreating from Jefferson City in this direction. My advance to meet him is already moving. Let troops of every organization press forward to join in his repulse and pursuit.

By command of Major-General Curtis:

C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

These efforts aroused the whole people. Business was immediately suspended and militia everywhere began to move and organize. All intelligence of the enemy's movements was published and the excitement was intense and universal. I ordered Colonel Ford to take position at Pleasant Hill, sending scouts forward in all directions to determine the position of the enemy. General Blunt was ordered to Paola to take command of the district and in the field. I also sent you the following dispatch by telegraph:

FORT LEAVENWORTH, *October 10, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Being informed by General Rosecrans that the rebel General Price is coming from Jefferson City, Governor Carney, at my request, has called out the militia, and I have declared martial law to secure prompt organization and unity of action. Telegraph lines are interrupted east of Independence, but my pickets in advance of that report only scattering foes. Shall soon have large force on the border or be moving beyond. Will take the field to-morrow, but will try to keep within telegraphic communication.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

I also informed General Rosecrans that the militia were collecting, and my purpose to give Price a warm reception if he comes this way. In further preparation of field operations I published the following order announcing staff officers, and also gave special directions to Brig. Gen. T. A. Davies concerning the completion of certain defenses in his district, which includes this post and the country north of the Kansas

River, with directions to remain in his district and guard against dangers in my rear which some thought would be assailed by a rise in North Missouri, aided by a portion of Price's troops that had crossed to the north side of the Missouri and taken Colonel Harding's force at Glasgow:

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
No. 55. } *Fort Leavenworth, Kans., October 10, 1864.*

The following temporary assignments to duty are published to the command. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

I. Maj. F. E. Hunt, chief paymaster, is also appointed acting aide-de-camp, and will take charge and command of all artillery in and near the town of Leavenworth, consistent with the general arrangements of district commanders Generals Blunt and Davies.

II. Maj. Henry Almstedt, in addition to his duties as additional paymaster, will report to Maj. F. E. Hunt for artillery duty.

III. Hon. James H. Lane, having tendered his services to the major-general commanding, they are accepted and he is assigned to duty as volunteer aide-de-camp.

IV. Capt. James L. Rafety, Second Kansas Colored, having reported for duty, will take charge of the general organization and command of persons of African descent. All of proper age and ability are included in the proclamation, and will be organized as other troops for immediate service.

V. Capt. J. M. Mentzer, Second Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, reports being here en route and unable to reach his command. He will report for temporary duty to Brig. Gen. T. A. Davies, commanding District of North Kansas.

VI. Rev. J. B. McAfee, chaplain Second Kansas Colored, having reported for duty, will have charge of contrabands in the field, and will also report to Captain Rafety as acting adjutant in the organization of troops of African descent.

By command of Major-General Curtis:

C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The Governor and Major-General Deitzler called on me to ascertain my purpose as to taking the militia out of the State, expressing apprehensions of difficulty on that point if such was my purpose. They also informed me that expressions of some of my officers had led them to distrust the whole matter of the militia movement, supposing it might be a political scheme gotten up by some around me to transport the people beyond the convenient exercise of their elective franchise, which would come off early in the next month. These were shocking enunciations. I assured these officers that in all human probability we might have to go beyond the State lines, and I considered my proclamation of martial law and call sufficient to cover the legal point as to the militia going beyond the border, but the raising of the question was of itself a great element of discord and danger. As to my attempt to defraud the ballot-box such an idea had never been mooted in my presence or entered my brain, and I pledged my honor that the militia should go no farther than necessary to repel or avert the approaching danger to the State. My manner and matter appeared to assure these officers, who by their position and influence held, as I conceived, the destiny of the State and department within their own hands. I name this, not to complain or reproach these officers, but because such sentiments were the natural offspring of the political crisis and separate State organization of all our militia. These difficulties, candidly presented by these high State authorities, were material, formidable obstacles which I and they had to encounter. They are inherent objections to the military organization of national forces, and I report them as developments incident to the events of this revolution, and important in the progress of this campaign against the rebel General Price. Being assured of my purpose, these officers promised hearty co-operation and gave immediate orders for the militia to proceed to points designated

near the border. I also ordered the immediate concentration of the Federal troops which had been previously prepared to unite in the campaign. My arrangements for collecting an army were thus completed on the 10th of October, but none of the forces were fairly in the field.

CHAPTER III.—MOVEMENTS IN THE FIELD.

I present a skeleton map* of the country, extending from the Missouri to the Arkansas River, through which I moved with my command, showing also the movements of the enemy in his approach and retreat, and the position of the military posts and towns that were near the lines of operations. This map, carefully prepared by my engineer from notes taken in the field, also shows the State and department lines, and the lines followed by the main forces, red representing Federal and blue the rebel movement. Flanking operations of both belligerent forces extended on either side, but are not laid down. Cross sabers represent the places where battles occurred, and the whole map gives a true presentation of important places without the confusion of irrelevant details. On the 11th of October, accompanied by a portion of my staff and escort (Company G, Eleventh Kansas, commanded by the gallant Captain Gove), I started on the campaign. Passing through Leavenworth and south of the city, I saw the militia mustering and moving and other matters of business generally suspended. October 12, at 12 o'clock, I arrived at Olathe, where most of the troops were ordered to assemble, but none had yet arrived. I also found water and wood so scarce I determined to take a more advanced position nearer the State line at Shawnee, and therefore so directed forces of all kinds. Forces at Paola under General Blunt were ordered to move toward Hickman Mills, in Missouri, and to "send out due east from Paola, sixty miles or more, to know whether Price moves south." The militia from Leavenworth and Lawrence came up toward night, the former having overdone themselves, and from all directions the news of moving militia was reported. Major-General Deitzler, commanding the militia, joined and accompanied me to Shawneetown, where we arranged the militia camps in that vicinity, fronting toward Missouri line and extending as circumstances required. Turkey Creek was especially convenient as a line of defense and was occupied as such. This rendezvous was very near the State line, in a thickly wooded country near the Kansas River, and in this and other respects a strong and convenient position, where the Kansas militia were on their own side of the line. I moved my own headquarters to Wyandotte.

On the 13th I received a dispatch from Colonel Eno, informing me that General Rosecrans had taken the field the day previous, en route to Jefferson City. Price's forces were between Boonville and Lexington, still moving westward. The same dispatch reported the enemy as having moved 2,500 men north of the Missouri River to attack the Hannibal and Saint Joseph Railroad, and another report came from the west that Stand Watie, with 5,000 men, was near Humboldt, threatening Southwest Kansas. These reports were calculated to check the movements of the militia, and greatly embarrass the organization of my army. I pronounced the first improbable, and the latter as "undoubtedly a roorback," and so telegraphed to North and South Districts of Kansas, where much excitement was induced by the rumor. Here Sen-

* To appear in the Atlas.

ators Lane and Pomeroy had both joined me as volunteer aides, and I found both of these men of great service in giving correct intelligence to the wavering public mind, and in suppressing false impressions.

Pursuant to the foregoing preliminary movements the militia were collected at and near Shawneetown, the left wing under Major-General Deitzler, Kansas State Militia Volunteers, and other militia, constituting my right wing, under General Blunt, U. S. Volunteers, at Hickman Mills. The former was directed to demonstrate toward Lexington, and the latter toward Warrensburg, so as to feel the enemy's approach. My own headquarters were generally at Wyandotte, and at Camp Charlot, near Kansas City, but I made a reconnaissance of the country in person through Independence and Hickman Mills, ascertaining to my own satisfaction that the Big Blue should be a first main line of battle, Kansas City a second, and finally, if overpowered, Wyandotte, on the north side of the Kansas River, connected by a floating bridge, would be a dernier resort. I directed my chief engineer, Lieutenant Robinson, to construct field works at each of these positions in view of this plan and attend to the proper organization of guns and light garrisons which could be spared for these positions. Colored troops and citizen guards of Kansas City and Wyandotte made efficient and proper troops for this purpose, and Lieutenant Robinson, assisted by ———, civil engineer of Kansas City, deserves special commendation for their efforts and success in these defenses. Lawyers, doctors, divines, and merchants entered the service, and I found them working faithfully on these field-works about Kansas City and the Big Blue. I here present another map,* showing the country near Kansas City, where troops and camps were located on both sides of State line. But a few days' delay while forces were coming and Price approaching was sufficient to weary some and induce doubts in the minds of many. A report was circulated that Price had gone south from Warrensburg and escaped and some of the militia actually turned homeward. Some severe measures and much remonstrance were necessary to retain those who came first till those who came last had fairly arrived. Some of the newspapers took up the theme and denounced the call, and especially martial law, which suspended business and forced citizens to the field without equipments, at an inclement season, when there was no occasion. To meet this complaint and retain the militia I made great efforts through my volunteer aides to diffuse correct intelligence, and I also distributed blankets and camp equipments to some extent, thereby administering a little to the wants and real suffering of men exposed to the rain and cold without covering. I also published dispatches from General Rosecrans and others, showing the steady approach of the enemy toward Kansas and his declared purpose to take Kansas City and Leavenworth and devastate the country everywhere.

This is one of General Rosecrans' dispatches:

JEFFERSON CITY, *October 14, 1864.*

Major-General CURTIS:

Our cavalry is pursuing the enemy northwest of Georgetown, who is reported moving toward Lexington. We shall occupy Sedalia with infantry to-morrow night. If you could move by Hickman Mills and Pleasant Hill, or by Independence to Lone Jack, it would greatly increase our chances of damaging Price, whose columns are of such length when on one road as to be very vulnerable. If he does not halt he will reach Lexington to-morrow night.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

* Not found.

I reported to you by telegraph as follows:

ARMY OF THE BORDER, HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
Kansas City, Mo., October 14, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.:

My forces are being concentrated in this vicinity. The enemy has approached to Independence, burning bridges beyond, but he has not occupied in force. I occupy Hickman Mills, Mo., and Shawneetown, Kans., with fighting force and scouts forward. Shall move slow, to allow my rear to close up. Have not an operator with cipher, and therefore abstain from giving numbers and particulars. Price is reported near Boonville or Lexington, moving this way. I denominate my forces "The Army of the Border," and will do all I can to make it felt by the foe.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

My purpose to move farther forward, in accordance with this dispatch and General Rosecrans' suggestion, was prevented, so far as the main force of the militia was concerned, in consequence of the aversion many of them expressed as to going beyond their own State line. Hearing that boats below had aided the rebels in crossing troops I directed the following order:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 56. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., October 15, 1864.

Commanders and owners of steam-boats and ferry-boats on the Missouri River, in this command, will see that their boats do not fall into rebel hands in a condition for rebel service, under the sure and swift penalty of the loss of boat and the forfeit of the life of the commander and pilot.

By command of Major-General Curtis:

W. H. STARK,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

I was thus prepared and ready for the enemy's approach. General Blunt was directed to demonstrate toward Pleasant Hill and Warrensburg, General Deitzler toward Independence and Lexington, each sending out cavalry to ascertain the line of his approach and harass his advancing columns. My own movements at Kansas City and Independence gave me convenient opportunities to observe the movements in advance and also supervise the main forces arranged on the Big Blue and the border. Maj. J. N. Smith, of the Second Colorado, advanced with about 300 cavalry on the telegraph road from Independence, dashing into Lexington on the 17th a little after sunrise, but found the town unoccupied, the enemy's pickets having fallen back before and on the occasion of his approach. Sending out scouts he found the enemy's picket about six miles southeast, which was attacked, killing 1 and wounding 2. This and other important intelligence of the presence of the main force of the enemy was reported by this gallant officer on the 18th through his proper commanders. He fell fighting at Little Blue two days after, and I submit this his last report, marked C,* as a reminiscence of a gallant soldier whose character is displayed in this daring advanced movement and expressed in this his last report. On the day previous General Deitzler reported at Independence the murmurs and doubts of the militia, and their refusal to cross the line until he made them a speech assuring them that they "should not be ordered too far into this State," and Colonel Blair reported that some of the militia regiment at Hickman Mills, believing that Price had taken another

*See p. 612.

route, had actually started homeward, but were checked by prompt, stringent orders enforced by General Blunt. I also received the following dispatch from General Rosecrans:

JEFFERSON CITY, *October 18, 1864.*

Major-General CURTIS:

As I telegraphed you last night, division of infantry occupy Sedalia. Our cavalry at Dunksburg, on the Blackwater. So soon as they get rations they will move forward. Price reported to have stayed night before last at Waverly. Mower's division will be at La Mine bridge to-night, with its batteries probably fit for action. Sanborn will have received supplies to-day by 12 m., and will move his right by Elmwood and Elkhorn and his left by Cook's Store toward Lexington. With these dispositions, combined with yours, it seems to me we can push the old fellow and make him lose his train. His horses' feet must be in bad order for want of shoes.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

I directed publicity in the newspapers of most of this intelligence to convince the militia of what they considered very incredible, the advance of Price toward my command, and I insert them here not to reproach anybody but to show why I was obliged to stand on the border, or near it, rather than go forward with my whole force to meet Price as I would have preferred to do in the vicinity of Lexington, Mo. I also do it to show that even among ardent loyal militia, State lines and State sovereignties greatly embarrass military operations. The evidence brought by Major Smith showing clearly the presence and progress of the enemy near Lexington was not clear enough, and some of the newspapers of the 19th came out denouncing the whole thing as a fraud or fallacy and expressing a belief that Price had left the country. In the meantime Major-General Blunt had advanced with about 2,000 cavalry and several pieces of light artillery (mountain howitzers), arriving in Lexington at 2 p. m. on the 18th, the day after Major Smith had occupied the place. He had followed the Warrensburg road until he was confident that Price was not coming that way, and therefore he moved northward, where his presence was ascertained. Sending forward scouts from Lexington the enemy was felt on the 19th approaching on different roads in great force. Our troops offered a stern resistance, falling back slowly and in good order, fighting several hours and doing considerable damage to the enemy, with small loss on our side. The enemy displayed his main force, and this stubborn and gallant stand by General Blunt developed the strength, position, and progress of the enemy so clearly that its publicity throughout our lines on the 20th assured and reanimated the militia and secured me that unity of sentiment and will which before I had failed to secure in the Army of the Border.

For full details of this battle of Lexington I respectfully refer you to the report of General Blunt, who was in command, and to the reports of his subordinate commanders, Colonels Jennison and Moonlight, and also Hon. Senator Lane, of my volunteer staff, who accompanied and participated in this first conflict between my forces and the enemy. General Blunt, as directed by me, fell back to my headquarters at Independence, leaving Colonel Moonlight, who had covered the retreat, to remain as a picket at the Little Blue, with arrangements to burn the bridge on the approach of the enemy to embarrass his progress.

BATTLE OF LITTLE BLUE.

It was not my intention to give battle on the Little Blue, as will be seen by my letter of instructions to General Blunt, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
Independence, October 20, 1864.

General BLUNT,
In the Field:

GENERAL: I have no time to explain. Your troops must take position here where dry corn and provisions are arranged. The militia will not go forward and the Big Blue must be our main line for battle. We must not break down our best regiments. Eleventh, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth, and Ford's must have some rest. Leave two howitzers and, say, 400 men at the Little Blue, and come back yourself with the remainder. Probably Moonlight had better be left in command of that point, not to fight a battle, but to delay the rebel approach, and fall back to our main force. I will now be able to bring forward to Kansas City a respectable force. We must pick our battle-ground where we can have united councils as well as a strong position. This we are securing at Big Blue and elsewhere. The blow you gave the enemy is doing good in the rear. It is crushing some of the silly rumors that had well-nigh ruined my prospects of a successful defense.

Truly, yours,

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

This was in response to General Blunt's dispatch dated "nine miles east of Independence, 8 a. m. October 20," in which he suggested other arrangements. General Rosecrans was fully informed and responded from Sedalia, 5.40 a. m. the 20th, saying:

Your dispatch of 4.30 received. I will push my forces on Lexington with all possible speed.

About 9 o'clock in the morning of the 21st I received intelligence that the enemy had attacked Colonel Moonlight at the Little Blue, where he was resisting their passage of the stream, although by some accident he had failed to destroy the bridge. I immediately proceeded with my escort to reconnoiter the premises, giving permission rather than ordering Colonel Ford's regiment, McLain's battery, and a portion of the regular cavalry under General Blunt might accompany me to the front, expecting to meet Colonel Moonlight in retreat. But this gallant officer stood his ground until we arrived and developed most of the force I have named. I directed Captain McLain to form his battery behind the crest of the hill so as to fire over and against heavy artillery firing of the enemy that passed high over our heads, but did some damage to troops deploying in our rear. Colonel Jennison's brigade and that of Colonel Ford soon occupied advanced positions and made a desperate resistance to the rebel advance, which had by this time began to deploy on the west side of the stream. General Blunt and my staff were active in directing a proper disposition of forces. By this means we checked and drove back the enemy's advance, but as he soon began to outflank us on both sides of the road I directed the force to fall back, designating positions for the artillery to make a stand at the various and elevated angles of the road which passes through a timbered country. Many incidents in the conflict are detailed by my subordinates and those of General Blunt. Maj. R. H. Hunt, chief of artillery, took direction of my escort and four howitzers, doing signal service in the hottest of the fight, and only fell back by my orders when I saw we were being outflanked.

The details of his report deserves repetition. He says:

By your direction I placed McLain's battery in position and opened fire on the enemy, with what result I cannot state. I also placed two mountain howitzers connected with your body guard in position in the open field, but finding it too much

exposed to the enemy's sharpshooters I directed an advance with two additional howitzers of the Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. They took position in shelter of a friendly house, supported on the right by Colonel Ford; had no support on the left. As I met the Eleventh retreating and saw Major Ross I begged him to have Colonel Moonlight to retrace his steps and support me, which he did. Artillery opened on the enemy with canister and spherical case at short range and drove them back like sheep. Here is where Major Smith sacrificed his life in behalf of his country. Colonel Ford asked when I would retreat. I replied when he would. He remarked, although we drove the enemy from our front, they were flanking us. At this juncture I received from the commanding general orders to fall back, which was just in the nick of time. We retreated firing, keeping the foe at a respectable distance. Lieutenant Gill, of your body guard, lost fifteen horses out of forty, and Captain Johnson, of the Eleventh [Fifteenth] Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, lost several. * * * The last artillery firing was by Lieutenant Gill, supported by cavalry portion of your body guard, and commanded by the lamented Captain Gove.

Although sick Captain Gove remained in command of my escort till entirely exhausted, reluctantly leaving me after our subsequent victory at Westport, where he soon fell a victim to his disease, the result of his extraordinary exertions and gallantry.

Colonel Ford, speaking of the conflict in his brigade, says:

Left Independence at 10 a. m. and reached Little Blue in about one hour. I then received orders to place the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry on the left of Colonel Moonlight's brigade, the battery near the center of the line and the Second Colorado on the right. We immediately dismounted and advanced into the bluffs and became at once engaged, the enemy having crossed the stream before our arrival. We held our ground, advancing slightly for some time, and at one time drove the enemy in great confusion, but his force being too overwhelmingly large he threw a large body to the right, which compelled our right to give back slowly.

Colonel Jennison, who also commanded a brigade, reports concerning this affair of the Little Blue, as follows:

On the 21st of October, the enemy having advanced from Lexington, met the Second Brigade at the Little Blue at an early hour in the morning. The First Brigade was, therefore, ordered to the front, and immediately [proceeded] from Independence to the field, where it arrived about 11 a. m., taking position on the right. * * * In this engagement the Fifteenth Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, and the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, Lieutenant Pond, were dismounted and disposed in advantageous positions, which had hardly been accomplished when the lines were fiercely assailed by the enemy at all points and the contest became extremely spirited, though from the nature of the ground and the protection of our timber the casualties were not heavy. For some hours the engagement was maintained with varying results, our lines alternately falling back and advancing, the howitzer battery being actively and apparently effectively engaged until it became evident that the enemy was numerically superior to such an extent that it would be impossible to hold the ground, and a retrograde movement was commenced in the direction of Independence.

Colonel Jennison speaks very favorably of the conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt and Major Laing, and deserves much credit for his own gallantry during this day's contest.

Colonel Moonlight, who was left to retard the movements of the enemy, and therefore began the fight at Little Blue, reports as follows. After stating his force, only ten companies, he says:

It was no easy matter to hold an enemy so numerous and active, all being cavalry. Major Anderson, of the Eleventh, with two companies, had command of the bridge, which he set on fire and held until it was fairly burning, after which he fell back on the hill and joined the command, who then opened on the enemy. Captain Greer, with his company, I, Eleventh, had been stationed at a ford one mile below the bridge with instructions to hold the enemy as long as possible. He retired without firing a shot, but claims that it was impossible to do otherwise as the enemy were crossing at all points. Being thus menaced on all sides and the object for which I was left accomplished, the command slowly fell back two miles, fighting. A favorable piece of ground here presenting itself, a new line of battle was formed on the left of the Independence road, and we slowly began to drive the enemy back over the ground again, dismounting every man for the purpose of shelter

behind stone walls, fences, and houses, some of which were then held by the enemy, who, after a vigorous assault, were dislodged, thus affording us an advantage which accounts for the few killed [and wounded] on our side compared with that of the enemy, who suffered terribly.

Colonel Moonlight covered the retreat, even skirmishing after dark in and west of Independence. His conduct throughout the day was exceedingly gallant. Lieutenant-Colonel Plumb, Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, and Majors Ross and Anderson, Captain Gregg (who was severely wounded), and other officers named by the colonel, deserve the commendation he awards them in his report. During the day I noticed a company of Missouri volunteers from Warrensburg, under Capt. George S. Grover, to which I assigned position, and they did good service. Also some of the Kansas militia, under Captain McDowell, reported for duty and did good service in guarding and delivering the ammunition supplies. Major Charlot, Major McKenny, and Major Hunt, of my regular staff, and Hon. Senator Lane, of my volunteer staff, took an active and prominent part in the conflict and displayed much coolness and gallantry under the fire of the enemy. All the troops showed the greatest coolness and courage, always ready to rally, reform, and attack, during the slow retreat of only nine miles, which consumed the entire day. At Independence I received and announced to the citizens and soldiers the news of Sheridan's glorious victory in the Shenandoah Valley. At the same time publicly explained the nature of the day's operations and my arrangements for making a main stand on the Big Blue, where my main forces were being fortified. I had thus delayed and seriously embarassed the enemy without demoralizing any of my forces with the use of only a small portion and at a small loss in killed and wounded. General Blunt was very active and efficient during the whole day and his full report should be read to do him justice.

BATTLE OF THE BIG BLUE.

After a personal inspection of the surrounding country on the 18th of October, I ordered Col. C. W. Blair, who commanded a brigade of mixed troops, to take position on the west bank of Big Blue, six miles east of Kansas City, Mo., and arrange matters for making that stream a stand-point to confront and repel Price's approaching forces. My engineer, Lieut. G. T. Robinson, was directed to survey the stream and lay out such field-works as seemed expedient to resist the passage of cavalry and artillery. These officers engaged in these duties with great energy and sound judgment. On the morning of the 21st, before going forward to the Little Blue, I directed Major-General Deitzler, with what militia he then had at Independence, to fall back to the Big Blue, take general command of matters there, and bring up all the available forces in the rear and arrange them for battle on that line. This order was also carefully and zealously executed. All doubts as to the approach of Price were dispelled by constant sound of our guns at the Little Blue, and Governor T. Carney, General Deitzler, and all the militia entered with fresh zeal and energy upon the work of bringing up and deploying the Kansas and Missouri militia. At the close of the contest of the 21st, near Independence, I ordered all of General Blunt's and detached troops to move back and join the forces at the Big Blue, where I also repaired, establishing my headquarters on the main road leading from Independence to Kansas City, which is also a central position of my line on the Blue, which is nearly at right angles

with this road. The country is rough and thickly timbered, and the streams bordered by precipitate banks, which render it generally impassable for cavalry and artillery. I divided the forces, distributing them so as to form a line more or less continuous, according to danger from the Missouri River, to the crossing of the Blue, near Hickman Mills, a distance of fifteen or sixteen miles. Roads on the west side were convenient for concentrating these forces, and with the immense display of abatis and other field-works which had been erected under the supervision of General Deitzler, Colonel Blair, and my staff officers, I was ready to receive the enemy on the 22d. I assigned General Blunt to the command of the right wing, including all south of the road, and to General Deitzler the left wing, which includes all north of it. Militia, volunteers, artillery, and a considerable colored force which had been collected by Captains Hinton and Rafety, amounting, altogether, to about 15,000, were thus arranged, resolved to check or defeat the long continued progress of Price's army of 30,000. For his officers and men, taken prisoners, generally reported the enemy's force at from 25,000 to 37,000, and boasted of constant accessions by volunteering and conscription. On my arrival at the Big Blue I telegraphed you as to my conflict at the Little Blue and my designs for the 22d, and also telegraphed General Rosecrans as follows:

HEADQUARTERS,
Big Blue, October 21, 1864—5 p. m.

General ROSECRANS:

I am confident I can stop Price at this crossing, and hope you will come up in his rear and left. He cannot get out by Hickman Mills. If you can get that position we will bag Price, if I succeed, as I hope to do. My losses have been considerable, but my troops are in good order, and ready to make a stand at this place.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

He telegraphed me of same date as follows:

CAMP NEAR COOK'S STORE, *October 21, 1864—1 p. m.*

Major-General CURTIS:

Our cavalry reached Lexington at 10 a. m. this morning. The infantry will reach this evening and push forward. Rear division left Sedalia yesterday morning. Orders will be sent to push the enemy to the utmost.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

During the morning of the 22d the enemy approached General Deitzler's wing and drove in our pickets at an early period, but finding the army in that quarter too strong he avoided an attack. Colonel Ford sent forward a battalion to skirmish on the main road, but the enemy found our center also too strong, and signal officers reported a movement of the enemy southward, evidently designed to flank us. I moved my headquarters back to the intersection of roads bearing from Hickman Mills and sent a dispatch to the extreme right as follows:

SATURDAY, *October 22, 1864—9 a. m.*

General GRANT,
Commanding Militia, Near Hickman Mills:

Price is making very feeble demonstrations in front. Look out for your position. Send scouts out on road toward Pleasant Hill, and also toward Independence, to see if he is moving on my flank. Send me report every thirty minutes.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

I also sent my aides, Major McKenny and Lieutenant Roberts, to give warning to the right of General Blunt's right wing, but before they reached General Grant the intermediate ford at Colonel Jenni-

son's point, called Byram's Ford, had been attacked and forced, so the enemy had penetrated to the west side. News of this attack at Byram's Ford reached me at 2 p. m., and I immediately directed General Blunt to hasten re-enforcements to that point, and also sent similar orders to General Deitzler, whose left wing was no longer menaced.

Colonel Jennison resisted the enemy for some time, but ultimately and before re-enforcements reached him had to fall back in good order before overwhelming numbers. This break in my line severed the militia that were under General Grant, near Hickman Mills, and many of them were captured, including a 24-pounder cannon, which belonged to the State. Meantime the re-enforcements ordered to Byram's Ford joined Colonel Jennison's forces and fought the advancing column of the enemy till dark, when our forces drove back the advance some distance. But the enemy had penetrated and broken my extreme right flank, held Hickman Mills and all of the Blue south of Byram's Ford, and taken position south of my headquarters and Kansas City, to which point I now moved my headquarters. Only a small portion of my troops had been engaged when night closed the scene and displayed the enemy's camp-fires over a vast field south and southeast of Westport.

Some of the details of this day's contest are thus presented by my comrades in command. General Blunt says:

Early on the morning of the 22d I directed the First Brigade, under Colonel Jennison, to proceed up the Big Blue, a distance of four miles, to Byram's Ford to defend the crossing at that point, and for the same purpose I sent the Second Brigade, under Colonel Moonlight, to Hinkle's Ford, about two miles above the main crossing. At about 9 a. m. a small force of the enemy advanced on the main road from Independence to Kansas City, which proved to be only a feint to divert attention from the movement on our right flank in the direction of Byram's Ford. At 1 o'clock I heard artillery firing on my extreme right, from which I inferred that Colonel Jennison's command had been attacked, and immediately dispatched a courier to Colonel Moonlight to re-enforce him with the Second Brigade, but before Colonel Moonlight had time to arrive on the ground Colonel Jennison was forced to retire and the enemy had flanked our position on the Big Blue, and was crossing that stream in force. The First and Second Brigades kept upon their flank, and when near the State line attacked the right of their column, turned his flank, and punished him quite severely, the fighting continuing until dark. Finding the position of our army at the Big Blue flanked by the enemy, and in the absence of superior authority, I directed Major-General Deitzler, in command of the Kansas State Militia, to withdraw his command to Kansas City, and dispatched orders to Colonels Jennison, Moonlight, and Ford to remain with their commands in front of the enemy in the vicinity of Westport.

Major-General Deitzler reports:

The entire Army of the Border was now in position on and along the north side of Big Blue, occupying every passable crossing of that stream from its mouth to Hickman Mills, a distance of about fifteen miles, and presenting a formidable appearance. Price's army entered Independence on the 21st, and on the morning of the 22d his cavalry made demonstrations at several points in front of my position (the left wing), in several instances driving the pickets in under the cover of our artillery. About noon, having received reliable information that a heavy column of the enemy was moving against the right of our line, I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, commanding the Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, with two pieces of artillery, to re-enforce that position. Subsequently the Twelfth Kansas State Militia and Captain McLain's battery were also withdrawn from my line to re-enforce the right under General Blunt. The enemy having forced a passage of the Big Blue at Byram's Ford about 3 p. m., and my position being threatened from the rear, I quietly withdrew my command in perfect order, and retired to Kansas City in obedience to instructions from Major-General Blunt. Just as the troops commenced moving from our works on the Big Blue a detachment of rebel cavalry made a furious dash upon the left center of my line, occupied by the Nineteenth Regiment Kansas State Militia, under Colonel Hogan, who received the charge with the greatest coolness and gallantry, completely routing the enemy, killing 12 and capturing 10, without loss on our side.

Speaking of the operations of General Grant, who commanded the militia on the right of General Blunt's command, the general adds:

A strong detachment of the enemy moved up the Blue under cover of the timber and attacked General Grant, throwing his command into some confusion, killing 36 and wounding 43, taking about 100 prisoners, capturing 1 piece of artillery, and compelling General Grant to retire to Olathe.

There was not much fighting on the left wing of the line, but General Deitzler acted with good judgment and great promptness in his duties. The militia generally did well, and the disaster of General Grant's detachment was mainly owing to the overwhelming numbers of the enemy that moved upon them. Colonel Jennison, who commenced the fight, and stood the brunt of it during the afternoon, thus reports his operations:

On the morning of the 22d I was ordered with the brigade to Byram's Ford of the Big Blue, some eight miles from its encampment of the night previous. Arriving there we were joined by a detachment of Kansas State Militia of Colonel McCain's command, which rendered valuable assistance in obstructing the ford of the river by felling timber, &c. About 10 a. m. the enemy's advance made its appearance at the ford, attacking our outposts and attempting to force a crossing. The ford was so effectually obstructed, however, and in its condition wholly impassable for artillery, that for some hours little progress was made, the attacking party being repulsed each time it appeared in the front, which was defended by a strong skirmish line, securely posted, and one section of the howitzer battery then in charge of Second Lieut. H. L. Barker, Company G, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, to whom the command was transferred on the morning of the battle of Little Blue. The First Brigade held the enemy effectually in check, notwithstanding his great superiority of numbers, until about 3 p. m., when it became evident that he had succeeded in crossing considerable bodies above and below, and was rapidly flanking us both right and left. Upon this intelligence (word of which was sent to the general commanding with the additional report that the main body of the rebels was apparently in front and determined to effect a crossing at Byram's Ford) it was determined to retire in the direction of Westport or Kansas City, toward which it was evident the efforts of the enemy were directed. Our lines at the ford having been forced back, the rebels succeeded in crossing a considerable force of dismounted cavalry, a portion of which was employed in removing obstructions in the river, while the others were deployed on either side of the road, and advanced toward us. Then, with a strong body of rebels pressing on our rear and in constant expectation that our flanks would be attacked, the brigade commenced the retreat toward Westport, contesting every foot of ground until the enemy gave over the action and retired to the ford. Reaching the open ground some four or five miles between Westport and the State line, a large body of troops was discovered on our left advancing in a northerly direction from the timber of the Blue. Upon reaching the line road we were joined by Colonel Moonlight's command, when the First and Second Brigades were rapidly pushed forward upon the prairie to resist the advance of the enemy under Shelby, who had evidently crossed the ford four miles above Byram's. Skirmishers were immediately deployed from both brigades, and in a few minutes the action was commenced along the entire line with small-arms. A body of Kansas State Militia coming up soon after, it was formed in line of battle immediately in rear of First Brigade, when the rebels, being closely pressed by our skirmish lines, wavered for a moment and then began to give ground. Upon this a general advance of the First Brigade was ordered, and the lines rapidly advanced toward the enemy, who, after a slight resistance, fell back in confusion to the cover of the timber some two or three miles distant, closely followed by our forces, until, as the sun went down, not a vestige of the rebel Shelby's division beyond its dead and a few wounded was to be seen on the field. Maintaining our lines for some time with no further demonstrations from the recent exultant and confident enemy our columns were turned toward Westport, which we reached about 7 o'clock in the evening, going into camp between that place and Kansas City, where the Army of the Border was mostly concentrated, and as the night wore on we seemed encircled by the camp-fires of the rebels, which gleamed menacingly from the woods.

Colonel Moonlight's report presents that—

At the Big Blue, on the 22d, the Second Brigade was ordered to hold Simmons' Ford and report the movements of the enemy. None coming and the First Brigade, at Byram's Ford retreating, the Second Brigade in double-quick whipped around

by Westport and met the enemy at the State line, checked his advance into Kansas, and by the setting of the sun drove him back into Missouri. The fight continued until dark, after which the pursuit was abandoned and my command moved up to Shawnee Mission, for the purpose of procuring forage and rations. * * * In this fight Company G, of the Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, escort for Major-General Curtis, joined my command on the occasion and participated in the fight, as also the howitzers under Major Hunt, chief of artillery.

Colonel Blair, who was first ordered to take position on the Big Blue, gives more detailed and correct intelligence of the militia forces which he arranged in line. He reports as follows concerning his position on the Big Blue:

Before I had the brigade equipped I received (on the morning of the 18th) an order from General Curtis to move toward Independence and to come by Westport to complete my supplies. At 8 a. m. I was on the march, and, passing through Westport, camped on the west side of the Big Blue, on the road from Kansas [City] to Independence. I spent the whole of the night and part of the next day in procuring subsistence, arms, blankets, and tents for the command. Whilst engaged in this duty I was instructed by General Curtis not to move camp till further orders from him. On the morning of the 20th Lieutenant Robinson, chief engineer on the staff of the commanding general, arrived from the front with orders to fortify the line of the Big Blue, as General Curtis intended making his stand on that line. The 20th and 21st were spent in examining the country, felling trees, forming abatis, obstructing fords, and strengthening the defenses as much as possible. During the 21st the Fourth Regiment Kansas State Militia, Colonel McCain, and the Nineteenth, Colonel Hogan, reported to me, by order of Major-General Deitzler, Kansas State Militia, and were assigned to duty in my brigade. Captain Dodge's (Ninth Wisconsin) battery had also been assigned to my command in place of McLain's, taken to the front. In the evening of the 21st, all the troops having fallen back on this line, I established my command in its position of battle, where they supped, slept, and breakfasted the next morning, their horses, together with all of the transportation, having been sent back to Kansas City to avoid unnecessary incumbrances. My line of battle occupied a front of six miles, with one regiment (McCain's) still higher up at Byram's Ford, where the crossing was finally effected. Two hundred and fifty of Hogan's regiment held the cavalry ford at the mouth of the Blue, three miles from the main body of the regiment which formed my left. Next came the colored militia, and the Sixth Regiment Kansas State Militia, Colonel Montgomery. Dodge's (Ninth Wisconsin) battery and the colored battery occupied a fine artillery position in the center, cut out expressly for the occasion, supported on the right by Colonel Colton, Fifth Regiment Kansas State Militia, and Eves' Bourbon County battalion. At the ford two miles above was stationed Lieutenant Knowles' (Second Kansas) battery, supported by the Tenth Regiment Kansas State Militia, while still above at Byram's Ford was stationed Colonel McCain, Fourth Regiment Kansas State Militia. To this point Jennison's brigade was ordered, and at 11 a. m. the sound of the guns showed that the battle had commenced on our right. The Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry and McLain's battery, which up to this time had been in my rear, were ordered off to the right to support Colonel Jennison. I remained in position until 4 p. m., when I received orders to fall back to Kansas City. As Colonel Hogan's regiment was leaving the line to bring up the rear of the brigade a rush was made upon him by a party of the enemy, who had been concealed in the brush to his front across the creek. They waded the creek, pushed through and over the abatis of fallen trees clear up to Hogan's line, where after a short, sharp little skirmish, some twenty of them were taken prisoners and the rest driven off.

Maj. T. I. McKenny, additional aide-de-camp and inspecting officer of my staff, reports his active efforts in the action, from which I present the following extracts:

October 22.—On this day was fought the battle of Big Blue. The general commanding being fearful that a sufficient force had not been stationed at Byram's Ford, directed me to order Major-General Deitzler to send the greater part of his force to Colonel Jennison, holding that ford. General Deitzler said that he could not see the necessity as there were already the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Kansas, besides 150 infantry, also some other troops, with four guns, at that point, but that he would send more. I designated an independent company, numbering about 100, which I had that day armed on my own responsibility with arms taken from wagons going to Kansas City, as a proper force to be sent. It was understood these would be a part of the force sent. * * * The general commanding being desirous of information from the front, particularly Hickman Mills, dispatched me

to see what could be learned. Taking the wrong road I came near Byram's Ford, and there found Colonel Jennison slowly falling back and observed the enemy [in his front] and a large body of men on his right flank, supposed to be the enemy. Retraced my steps and got on the Hickman Mills road, when I met this same body of men, which proved to be Colonel Johnson's militia in rapid retreat. I stopped them and caused them to go to the rear slowly. At the same time I sent Colonel Jennison notice. I now proceeded on my road, but had not gone far when I became satisfied that I would soon be cut off, as the enemy were already rapidly advancing, having captured many of the militia near Hickman Mills, besides one gun. I now rode rapidly to the rear. Overtaking the militia I placed them in line of battle in the edge of the timber, with directions to hold their ground and retard the enemy's progress. General Fishback was present and manifested the greatest willingness to meet the enemy. I afterward learned that this regiment did good service. Night now closing in found us in rather a doubtful position. Our forces being pressed fell back to[ward] Kansas City, where most of them arrived about 10 o'clock. The Second Colorado, with the exception of two companies, with the Eleventh, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth Kansas, remained on the field confronting the enemy.

Major Charlot, assistant adjutant-general, who noted the time and generally drew up my orders and reports, says, concerning this day's operations:

At this time (11 o'clock) Jennison was holding Byram's Ford and Moonlight Hinkle's Ford. Colonel Ford reported that heavy columns of the enemy were moving in direction of these fords. Generals Deitzler and Blunt were both ordered to send forward re-enforcements.

Major Hunt, my chief of artillery, reports of his operations:

The general sent me out with body guard to re-enforce. Reached a distance of about two miles from town (Westport); met the militia falling back in confusion; halted them and made them go back; sent a messenger to Colonel Jennison asking him where I could render him the most service. He informed me that the enemy was flanking him on the right and left, and for me to fall back on the Westport road to keep the enemy out of town. I did so. Met Colonel Moonlight passing west to check the enemy from going into Kansas. Soon the Fifteenth, under Colonel Hoyt, also came. We all marched in double-quick until we reached the Kansas prairie west of Westport; here we deployed in line; met the enemy square in the face. I turned over the command of the body guard to Captain Gove and gave my services to Colonel Moonlight. The enemy opened two pieces of rifled artillery upon us at the distance of a mile, supported by Fagan's or Shelby's division. They drove us steadily from about 3 o'clock until nearly dark, when our skirmish line was re-enforced. I assumed command of it and drove the enemy back some two miles, capturing several prisoners, among them a lieutenant, whom I delivered to the commanding general in Kansas [City] that night. Colonel Moonlight, Lieutenant-Colonel Plumb, Colonel Jennison, Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, and other officers and men, deserve special credit for their soldierlike conduct.

Lieut. Cyrus M. Roberts, acting aide-de-camp, was ordered to carry communications to Hickman Mills, and being thus detached, reports:

On the 22d of October, in the afternoon, when Colonel Jennison's command was attacked at Byram's Ford, you ordered me at Westport, Mo., to go to Hickman Mills, Mo., and order all the forces that might be there to immediately re-enforce Colonel Jennison. Arriving at the Mills I found Maj. John M. Laing in command of a part of the Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry and delivered him your order. His command was feeding. I also saw the Twenty-first Kansas State Militia, which was just ready to mount. I delivered your order to the colonel (Lowe) commanding, and his regiment moved forward immediately at a trot. . . . When we arrived on the brink of the hill descending to the Big Blue we saw right ahead of us, and as far as the eye could reach, clouds of dust along the road, and knew it must be the main column of the enemy advancing. In a very few minutes (perhaps five) the Twenty-first Kansas State Militia had dismounted and formed in line of battle along the brink of the hill. Those of the Twenty-first Regiment who could see the enemy commenced firing. Their advance immediately fell back out of sight and formed in a body, but in a few minutes came forward with a yell. The Twenty-first fired a volley into them and they fell back out of sight. While this was going on Major Laing's command came up where the horses were held, but instead of rendering the militia assistance they turned immediately back, leaving the militia to get out the best they could. Several of the militia followed, but Lieutenant-Colonel Robinson, Colonel Lowe, and myself, drew our weapons and kept the militia (who were giving way) to the front.

The enemy appeared very much demoralized and did not seem to want to give us battle after this. Holding our position twenty or thirty minutes without another attack (the skirmishing still going on) we concluded to mount and pass around the enemy to the west and join you. It was getting late and darkness came on before we had gone a mile.

It is proper to say in this connection that I arrested Major Laing when this affair was reported to me, but upon explanations, and in consideration of his gallantry elsewhere, I directed his release. This report of Lieutenant Roberts shows the operations in the vicinity of Hickman Mills, and also the movement of the enemy westward at the close of the day's fighting. This repulse by the militia was a gallant affair and must have greatly annoyed the rebels, who found resistance on all sides of them. Other staff officers, Major Weed, Major Curtis, Captain Meeker, of the signal corps, Surgeon Davis, Lieutenant Robinson, were also active in carrying out my orders. My volunteer aides, Honorables Senators Lane and Pomeroy, were earnest and very efficient in the field. Senator Pomeroy was especially active in bringing the militia forward and correcting their impressions as to the movements, while Senator Lane's experience in former campaigns in Mexico and upon the Kansas border enabled him to be of much service in the field everywhere. Colonel Crawford, Colonel Roberts, Colonel Ritchie, and Colonel Cloud, of my volunteer aides, all of whom had experience and zeal to stimulate their exertions, were active, efficient, and useful throughout this and other days of this campaign. Surgeon Davis and Surgeon Harvey were active in their care of the wounded.

Reference to the accompanying map* will show the scope of operations during the day and the general result.

Our left and center had not been moved by the enemy and although our extreme right had been pressed back our closing efforts were encouraging. The enemy now having possession south of us, after night concealed our movements I ordered the main forces to take position within the lines of fortification which surrounded Kansas City, where they could get rest and supplies, to which place I moved my own headquarters. About 6 o'clock of this evening I also received verbal intelligence of the arrival of General Rosecrans' advance, under Major-General Pleasonton, with cavalry, at Independence, where it was stated he had struck General Price's rear. This intelligence came about 6 o'clock in the evening, and being circulated among my forces inspired new hopes and energies in the Army of the Border.

BATTLE OF WESTPORT.

Night closing the battle of Big Blue on the 22d, I ordered my troops under cover of the darkness to concentrate within the lines of field-works that inclosed Kansas City, Mo., only a small force remaining in front of Westport near the long line of camp-fires that marked the position and vastly superior numbers of the rebel forces. The citizens and soldiers had so improved the natural strength of Kansas City as to make this position almost impregnable, and being well furnished with food, forage, and ammunition, I replenished exhausted stores and secured my weary soldiers a few hours' repose, which, after so many days of marching, watching, and fighting, we all very much needed. But in view of to-morrow my officers were put to a new test of their powers of endurance. The enemy had halted south of Westport, and

*To appear in the Atlas.

some five or six miles south of Kansas City, where he could either turn my new right flank, which rested on Turkey Creek, or attack in front at his leisure. I therefore determined to renew the offensive on his own grounds with my main force, leaving heavy artillery, unmounted militia, and the home guard of the city to hold the line of intrenchments, to fall back upon if occasion required. A dispatch from Maj. Frank Eno, Saint Louis, October 22, informed me that General Rosecrans was at 1.30 p.m. to-day fifteen miles from Lexington, but a scout from his cavalry advance reported General Pleasonton at Independence, only nine miles from Kansas City. Militia also came in to re-enforce me and compensate for the considerable losses of the day. I directed Generals Blunt and Deitzler to personally supervise preparations and have the troops to commence moving at 3 o'clock in the morning, and all of my staff not then engaged locating the troops for the night were also directed to assist in notifying and replenishing the militia for the proposed attack of the enemy at daylight the next morning. A verbal message was also sent to General Pleasonton giving him information of my purpose. General Pomeroy volunteered to locate troops at the crossing of the Kansas River, so as to apprise me of any movement around my right flank. The officers all heartily united and labored most of the night in efforts to have everything ready for a united, powerful attack on the rebel camp at daylight.

Our regular volunteers, with the artillery, moved early in the morning of the 23d, and were deployed into line of battle two miles south of Westport, on Brush Creek, which is shown on the map* accompanying this report. This stream lies east and west, and is skirted by a dense forest some two miles wide. This advance of General Blunt was soon attacked by overwhelming odds, and gradually fell back. The militia came up and deployed under Colonel Blair on the right, but not sufficient to maintain the advanced position. Our troops fought desperately and sometimes repulsed the enemy, but gradually fell back to the north side of Brush Creek. After directing General Deitzler and Colonel Coates (who commanded the Missouri militia) to put the whole male population about Kansas City on duty in the trenches of that place, I pressed forward all the mounted forces and joined General Blunt at Westport at 7.30, where I found our forces as last mentioned. The enemy had advanced his skirmishers so as to occupy the timber south of Brush Creek, while our troops occupied the timber on the north side. As the militia were coming forward, I ordered a reconnaissance to the left and front, also sending Major Curtis in that direction with orders to find and report matters to General Pleasonton, and directed also the farther extension of our lines to the right. From the roof of the hotel where I found General Blunt we could see beyond the timber of Brush Creek the rebel forces deployed in endless lines on the open prairie. McLain's battery was on the brow of the north bank of Brush Creek and near the road, Dodge's (Ninth Wisconsin) battery to his right. We also had about twenty other pieces of artillery, mostly mountain howitzers, with cavalry, taking position as their supporting squadrons came into line. Meantime continued firing was kept up by skirmishers and artillery on both sides, with but little damage to either. After taking the positions named on opposite sides of Brush Creek, about 11 o'clock I went myself to the right of our lines, and led the militia forward as skirmishers. I tried to get through the timber with Dodge's battery and two little howitzers of my escort, but the roads

* To appear in the Atlas.

were not favorable and I left the farther movement of the right to Colonel Blair, who was soon after joined by General Deitzler. I was directed by an old man, a Missouri patriot of seventy-five years, through a narroy defile to Brush Creek with Dodge's battery and other forces. With trembling, sinking steps the old man directed us to a position where we immediately began to demonstrate against the enemy that occupied the inclined plain and wooded heights on the south of Brush. The weary veteran refused to ride, but sunk down with delight and exhaustion when he saw the success of our guns. Like many other brave Missourians of that day he saw the rebellion vanishing before him and his home and country free. Moving farther down Brush Creek to the left I found Colonels Ford and Jennison skirmishing fiercely and evidently successfully pressing the enemy back. Thinking it a favorable time I immediately ordered a cavalry charge, one by the main road, and another by a road leading to the left and front, supported by advancing skirmishers and second lines. At the same time I directed General Blunt to advance in support with McLain's battery, and other artillery. The cavalry charges led by Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt and Captain Thompson dashed forward with a terrible shout, carrying the heights and stone fences, which were immediately occupied by our main forces, and I soon saw our line, extending far away on my right, emerging from the dark forests of Brush Creek.*

The enemy was soon overpowered, and after a violent and desperate struggle fell back to another elevation on the broad prairie and operated their artillery and cavalry to their utmost ability in a vain attempt to check our general movement. Our militia continued to come swarming out of the forest, displaying a length and strength of numbers that surprised me. Their movement was steady, orderly, and gallant. Every piece of artillery, especially the little howitzers, was in active fire, showing artillery enough to represent an army of 50,000. This display of force, rather than effective fire, seemed to cause the enemy to increase his distance before us, while we steadily advanced all arms over a beautiful prairie, where both armies were in full view. It was at this time, about 11.30 a. m., I telegraphed you and my anxious friends in the rear that the victory was ours. At about 12 m. the guns of General Pleasonton were heard on our left, and at 2 p. m. his lines were in full and successful co-operation on the left. The enemy's retiring movement was immediately changed to a complete rout and our troops took up the pursuit at full speed. I met with General Pleasonton at a farm-house on Indian Creek, where he related to me his movements, which had also commenced early in the morning and included active operations most of the day. To give a full detail of matters I submit the reports of my associate officers, but especially collate the following extracts:

General Blunt says:

> All the night of the 22d was occupied in getting ammunition and subsistence to my command, with the view of commencing the attack upon the enemy at daylight the following morning. Daylight on the morning of the 23d revealed the enemy in force on the open prairie directly south of Westport and about two miles distant. Col. C.W. Blair's brigade of State militia was ordered out from Kansas City at 3 a. m., and at daylight my whole command was in motion, moving in column through Westport and across Brush Creek, and soon after sunrise the First, Second, and Fourth Brigades were deployed into line of battle on the south side of the timber skirting Brush Creek, where Shelby's division, of Price's army, was advancing upon

* Map of battle-ground of Westport (here omitted) to appear in the Atlas.

my line. Skirmishers were thrown forward and the engagement with small-arms and artillery soon became general. My advance line being hard pressed I ordered Col. C. W. Blair to advance with the Sixth and Tenth Regiments State Militia, to support the right of my line and guard my right flank, which order was executed with great promptness. Time being required to get the militia arriving from Kansas City dismounted and in position, and the contest in front being severe and unequal, I directed my advance line to fall back to the north side of Brush Creek. The enemy advanced a short distance, but did not attempt to attack my second line, with the exception of a small force that approached through the timber to attack my left flank. This force was promptly repulsed by the Fifth and Nineteenth Regiments of the State Militia, under Colonels Colton and Hogan.

Major-General Deitzler, Kansas State Militia, reports:

On the morning of the 23d I received instructions from the commanding general to remain at Kansas City, and to place the artillery and infantry in position in the intrenchments and hurry to the front. About 9 a. m. I directed Brigadier-General Sherry, Kansas State Militia, to assume command of the works in Kansas City, and proceeded to Westport. There had been severe fighting all morning in the vicinity of Westport, and some brilliant charges by the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, which were resisted with great stubbornness, and resulted in heavy loss to the enemy, but no ground was gained by our side. When I arrived at the front the firing had ceased and I found our forces formed on the bluff on the north side of Brush Creek, the left resting on the road leading from Westport to Hickman Mills, and the enemy on the south side of said creek, beyond the woods. The Kansas militia were dismounted and the horses sent to the rear, and as soon as the formation was completed our forces were ordered by Major-General Curtis to advance, with General Blunt on the left and myself on the right. The personal presence of Major-General Curtis inspired the men with confidence, and the whole command moved forward in perfect order through the dense underbrush, and as they emerged from the woods on the south side of Brush Creek they encountered the enemy in strong force, and, after a severe struggle, in which our troops showed great bravery, drove him from his chosen position. Taking advantage of the confusion which occurred in the enemy's line at this time our victorious force advanced rapidly into the open field, firing volley after volley into the flying rebels, killing and wounding large numbers, who were left in our hands. Both armies were now in full view of each other on the open prairie, presenting one of the most magnificent spectacles in nature. The enemy made several attempts to stand, but such was the dashing bravery of our troops that they never succeeded in rallying and forming their men to offer any considerable resistance. A running fight was then kept up for about four miles, the enemy slowly retreating in a southerly direction, parallel with and about a mile from the State line, in Missouri, when General Rosecrans' advance, under Major-General Pleasonton, made its appearance some distance from the right of the enemy, and opened upon them with artillery. At this point the retreat became a perfect rout, and the enemy, running in great confusion southward, were soon out of sight. Their course was indicated by dense volumes of smoke, emanating from their burning of the prairie hay, grain stacks, &c. I accompanied the pursuit a short distance beyond the Blue, where we were joined by Major-General Pleasonton and staff. After consultation with that officer it was decided that the U. S. forces under Generals Curtis and Pleasonton were sufficient to follow the rebel horde and to drive them beyond the States of Missouri and Kansas, whereupon I requested and obtained permission from the general commanding to order the militia to their several counties, except the Fifth, Sixth, and Tenth Regiments, all from Southern Kansas, who continued with the pursuit to Fort Scott, from whence they were sent to their homes.

Colonel Ford, of the Second Colorado, reports:

Early on the morning of the 23d I was ordered with my brigade through Westport. I formed a portion of the Second Colorado and Sixteenth Kansas on the hill immediately south of Brush Creek, with one section of the battery, but soon after advanced to the edge of the prairie and took up position across the road to the left of Colonel Jennison's brigade, the section of the battery being placed in the road. For a while the firing was exclusively artillery, but the rebels advancing, the whole line was soon engaged and kept up a very steady and galling fire for two hours or more. The enemy was repeatedly repulsed, and one very bold and dashing charge made by him down the road upon the battery was very handsomely repulsed by portions of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry and Second Colorado Cavalry, the counter-charge being led in person by Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, commanding the Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, and in which charge he received a severe wound in the foot. Finally, in the face of a very heavy fire from the First Brigade, the enemy

forced a very large column into a small copse to the right of my brigade and commenced a flank fire upon me. Not having force enough to dislodge the enemy from his new position I fell back toward Brush Creek, forming line upon each ridge until I received orders to form north of the creek, the battery meanwhile having been placed in a commanding position on the hill. After forming on the bottom, I sent part of the Second Colorado Cavalry, on foot, as skirmishers through the woods. The Twelfth Kansas State Militia were also sent into the woods, on foot, and did good service. The footmen kept steadily driving the enemy until the advance of the whole division was ordered, when our old position was regained, and after a short fight the enemy was completely routed, and fled precipitately from the field. Every one advanced as speedily as possible, continuing the pursuit until dark, Colonel Jennison, with portions of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, and Second Colorado Cavalry, in the extreme advance.

Colonel Jennison reports:

On the morning of the 23d the brigade was under arms at daylight, and after having supplied itself with ammunition from the train sent out from Kansas City, retraced its march of the previous evening, coming on the rebel lines about three miles from the town, where it assumed position as the center of the line, with the brigades of Colonels Ford and Moonlight on the flanks. The brigade was thus deployed on the right of the road, in a large field traversed by rail and stone fences, which to some extent impeded active cavalry operations, though affording excellent protection to dismounted troops. Our skirmish lines were immediately formed and had advanced but few rods when severe and incessant fire of small-arms was commenced upon them and replied to with utmost spirit, the enemy commencing almost instantly to fall back. Our lines were then advanced some distance, a rapid fire being kept up from either side, until the rebels, having received a re-enforcement, made a desperate stand and succeeded in temporarily pressing us back beyond our original position, and to the edge of a small body of timber skirting the wood upon which the Second Colorado Cavalry was posted. At this point the fighting again became severe, and a second time we were compelled to retire, a movement participated in by the entire division; the First Brigade, however, forming the right of the new line about 200 yards in rear of its first position, the Second Brigade having left the field. At this point a desultory fire was kept up for some time, the rebels making no positive demonstration, our lines being re-enforced by the militia under Colonel Blair. At length the enemy pressed forward and succeeded in planting one section of a Parrott battery on the Line road, rendering our position one of extreme danger, his lines being heavily re-enforced at the same time. Leaving the position we fell back on the Line road almost to the suburbs of Westport, where the army was reorganizing and concentrating for a final effort, and soon the order was received for a general advance along the entire line, which was obeyed with the utmost alacrity. The First Brigade, with a detachment of the Second Colorado and McLain's battery, took position on the right of the road, commencing an impetuous attack upon the rebels, who were rallying for a charge upon the battery, one section of which was posted directly in the road. Hardly had we taken position when the enemy charged in column upon the guns up the road, which were supported by the Second Colorado, the First Brigade being to the right in front as they advanced, Company E, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, forming the left of the brigade line and deployed as skirmishers. Seeing that a desperate effort was required to save the battery I immediately rallied Company E and led in person a charge upon the flank of the rebel column, a movement which was entirely successful, though a desperate hand-to-hand contest ensued, after maintaining which for a short time the enemy withdrew in disorder toward his main lines southward. * * * The enemy having fallen back upon the road, our lines were reformed and again advanced through the fields on the right of the road, driving the rebels at all points. Directly in the road, at the summit of a slight slope, a body of the enemy seemed determined to make a stand, when I was ordered by General Blunt to charge the hill with his body guard and one squadron of the Second Colorado, all the troops available at that instant. Drawing sabers and forming columns of fours the squadrons dashed with reckless courage upon the hill into the very midst of the rebels, who, not waiting to ascertain our strength and hardly making a show of fighting, broke and fled, some into the timber on the left, but a majority down the road. A detachment was then dismounted and deployed along a stone fence skirting the woods and a sprightly fire was opened on the rebels in the woods to the left, but these soon made their way out and joined the main rebel body about a mile distant, where the enemy's lines were yet unbroken and upon which at this period a section of McLain's battery, under Lieutenant Eayre, was brought to bear with telling effect. Generals Curtis and Blunt having reached the scene in person I was directed to charge the rebel lines with the First Brigade on the right and left of the road, under cover of

a heavy fire from the Colorado battery, which was worked with rapidity and the utmost precision by Captain McLain and his lieutenants. Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, with six squadrons of the Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, was directed to advance on the left, while, with one company of the Fifteenth, the Third Wisconsin detachment, two companies Second Colorado, and General Blunt's body guard, I took the right. The brigade thus formed advanced, charging the rebel lines with an impetuosity that overcame opposition. The enemy then, confused and demoralized, broke and fled, scattering arms and equipments along the road, and covering the grounds with the debris of a routed army. For more than a mile the brigade pursued, never drawing rein, while the rebels, too demoralized to attempt a halt, seemed each determined to save himself as best he might. * * * The First Brigade, in advance of the pursuing column, maintained its position during the remainder of the day, coming up with the enemy below Little Santa Fé and skirmishing with his rear until dark.

Colonel Jennison honorably mentions most of his officers, especially Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, Maj. T. I. McKenny, of my staff, who joined him in the advance, Captain Johnson, and many others who deserve commendation. The whole brigade deserves the gratitude of their country.

Colonel Moonlight's report says:

Early on the morning of the 23d I received orders to supply my command with ammunition and rations and take the right of the line of battle about to be formed a little south of Westport. This was promptly done, and in front of the Second Brigade the enemy were driven back for over a mile after a stubborn resistance. The command on the left had fallen back, so I was not supported in that direction, allowing the enemy to come up on my flank and deliver a raking fire. To meet this fire and preserve order it was necessary to wheel two squadrons to the left, which was done in fine style by Companies A and I, Eleventh (Lieutenant Drew commanding Company I after the battle of Little Blue). My command fell back in good order, handsomely protected on the right flank by Lieutenant-Colonel Woodworth, Twelfth Kansas State Militia, who reported to me that morning with a part of the regiment. Colonel Woodworth is deserving much praise for dashing on the enemy's flank of skirmishers in the manner he did. After falling back to Westport I received orders from General Blunt to pass round the right flank of the enemy and keep in between him and Kansas, which order was faithfully carried out, and while our forces from Westport were putting Price to rout the Second Brigade whipped in on the right flank in hot pursuit of that portion of the enemy invading Kansas.

Colonel Moonlight's brigade deserves commendation.

Brig. Gen. W. H. M. Fishback, Kansas State Militia, participated in this battle, commanding the militia on the right under Major-General Deitzler, and reports as follows:

The 23d instant the enemy appeared in line of battle a little south of Brush Creek near Westport. Generals Curtis and Blunt occupied a position in front and directed our movements in person. About 8 a. m. our entire force moved out to meet the enemy, and took position on Brush Creek, extending our lines from east to west, Colonel Jennison's brigade occupying the left, Colonel Moonlight's the right, and my brigade the center. Here the brigade was dismounted and acted as support to the batteries. The battle at this point was fierce and stubborn and with varying success, neither side gaining any great, decisive advantage for more than three hours, the rebels hotly contesting every foot until about 10 o'clock, when they began slowly falling back. Our men stood up nobly to their work and maintained their ground like veterans, and, seeing their advantage, were eager to pursue. The enemy were now plainly feeling their way out and losing nerve. Our boys commenced and soon the whole woods resounded with loud and long continued cheer after cheer as we drove them and pushed them from the timber. Our batteries are now hurried through the corn-field, followed by the militia, who are supporting them. Here we have punished them severely; their dead are numerous and lie on the field unburied. Our loss compared with theirs is trifling. By 12 o'clock we have reached the open prairie four miles south of Westport, when we see on our left as far as the eye can reach a long column advancing toward us. We are inspired with new and intense interest; we look and listen; we are not long in doubt; we hear the artillery of Generals Pleasonton and McNeil; they have at last reached us and given the enemy's right a taste of their powder; we now have them; the retreat became a perfect rout; we cannot keep pace with them. The battle is over, the victory won, and nobly won.

The militia of Kansas behaved nobly and saved their State from devastation. Colonel Blair's command on this occasion was mainly Kansas State militia and he reports his movements as follows:

Pursuant to General Blunt's orders I formed my brigade on the high grounds south of Westport, overlooking a little creek, the southern acclivity of which was covered with a dense growth of timber and underbrush. After the line was formed and the artillery in position I dismounted the militia, leaving every sixth man to hold horses, and pushed them through the timber to the front, where I formed them behind a fence and in front and on the left of the Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt. Before us was an open field, on the other side of which was the enemy in considerable force and strongly posted behind a stone fence, which formed an admirable cover. We were partially protected by the edge of the timber and a rail fence. Firing was kept up rapidly and heavily for half an hour, the enemy being held firmly in check, but I attempted no advance, as I did not know whether our flanks were cleared or not. In a short time the Fifteenth retired, in obedience to orders, and very soon after I received an order through Col. S. J. Crawford, of the staff, to fall back to my first position. Accordingly I marched to the rear, through the timber, and formed immediately on the north bank of the creek without going clear back to my original position. * * * A rumor reaching me that the enemy was attempting to flank my position on the right, and fearing to await for orders lest it might be accomplished I dispatched a messenger to General Blunt to inform him of what I was doing, and hastily threw my line up into the dense timber on my right, twice its own length, and then pushed it steadily forward. At this time I received orders from Major-General Curtis to make the movement which I had already commenced. Thus reassured, I moved forward as rapidly as the thick undergrowth and broken ground would permit until I came to the edge of an open field and formed a junction with Colonel Hogan's regiment, which had been sent forward from a different direction. A heavy fire was here opened on us from a corn-field which stretched from our right front, and which seemed filled with skirmishers, and from a large brick house in an orchard just beyond, in which a party of sharpshooters was stationed. In a few minutes several of our men had fallen, and the fire was incessant and close. I immediately ordered the right of the brigade forward and drove the enemy from the corn-field and house, while the left of the line kept straight forward through a stubble-field on their flank. About half a mile to the front the cavalry and artillery came out the road on our left and we joined the line, relieving Jennison's cavalry from its position in support of McLain's battery. We then commenced driving the enemy steadily before us, and from then until his retreat became a rout it was as much as my dismounted men could do to keep up with the artillery. As soon as the heaviest of the action was over I sent details back to bring up the horses, and pushed forward with my own dismounted men and artillery.

The colonel makes honorable mention of many of the militia officers, and very justly commends the conduct of the Kansas militia for their good conduct during the day, for all which I refer you to his entire report, which, with all from which I make extracts, and many more, are respectfully submitted.

Maj. S. S. Curtis, Second Colorado, who, with a small detachment, went in search of General Pleasonton early in the day, returned at night, reporting General McNeil's operations which came to his notice:

About 10 a. m. I was ordered to take a squadron of the Second Colorado, commanded by Captain Kingsbury, and proceed via Independence to General Pleasonton's command and inform him of the position and operations of General Curtis. I went within one mile and a half of Independence, where, finding I was far in the rear of General Pleasonton's command, I turned south, and striking the Independence and Hickman Mills road I followed it until I came up with General McNeil's brigade, which I found drawn up in line of battle on a ridge, with a number of dismounted men in the valley in front of them. On the opposite side of the ridge to the south about three-fourths of a mile distant the enemy were deployed and still deploying. Some artillery firing was progressing when I came up, which continued for several minutes thereafter, but as the enemy continued to deploy troops and was endeavoring to flank us on both sides, General McNeil ordered the command to fall back about half a mile. I could hear nothing from General McNeil of General Pleasonton's whereabouts, and concluded he must have passed between me and the Big Blue. As I had ridden hard for some fifteen miles, and the squadron showed some signs of fatigue, I rested there for about two hours and then struck almost due west on a by-road which brought me to the Big Blue at the Westport ford, where there

were signs of very severe fighting that day. Broken wagons, cannon balls, shells, and dead bodies were scattered along the road for two miles. The dead seemed nearly all of the Kansas militia and the rebels. I saw but one white man, who appeared to have been a Federal soldier, and two negroes. I came to General Sanborn's camp shortly after dark and there first learned the particulars of the battle of the day and also that General Pleasonton had effected a junction with General Curtis and that both were probably encamped several miles to the west. I then pushed ahead with my squadron and reached headquarters at Little Santa Fé at 10 p. m., having traveled about forty-five miles during the day.

The movements west by Colonel Moonlight and east by Major Curtis show the extent of operations both east and west by both the troops of General Rosecrans and mine to have extended east and west from near Hickman Mills to the State line. And other reports show the contest to have extended from Westport to about five miles below Little Santa Fé, where Colonel Jennison left the enemy at work.

The active part taken by other officers of my staff in this victory will be found in their several reports. Those of Major Weed, Major McKenny, Major Hunt, Major Charlot, Captain Meeker, and Lieutenant Roberts will be found interesting as well as those of my volunteer staff, General Lane, General Pomeroy, Colonel Roberts, Colonel Cloud, and others. I have only extracted portions to illustrate leading truths of history, omitting what is also of interest but not essential to the presentation of our general movement. I have been only anxious to give the general outlines of affairs which extended far beyond the reach of any one observer, inviting examination of the reports of my subordinates who in various positions saw and participated in the movements and bloody strife of this campaign. The victory of Westport was most decisive. We did not stop to count our losses or bury our dead in any of these conflicts. In killed, wounded, and missing it was probably 500. The enemy's loss in killed and prisoners was not larger, but their men scattered, leaving two broken cannon, many muskets, and much of their equipments on the field. Their retreat commenced on what is called the Line road, which they generally followed southward in their flight and subsequent pursuit to the Arkansas River.

CHANGE OF FORCE AND PURSUIT OF PRICE'S ARMY.

The enemy having been fairly defeated at Westport after over three days of fighting, a vigorous pursuit was necessary to prevent his taking our military posts which are located near the State line at various points between the Missouri and the Arkansas, a distance of about 300 miles. The troops of General Pleasonton, the militia, about 10,000 strong, and my regular volunteers, about 4,000, were now more than sufficient to pursue Price. Halting at a farm-house near Indian Creek about 2.30 on the 23d, these matters were discussed; Generals Pleasonton, Deitzler, Blunt, Sanborn, and most of our staffs, having stopped for dinner and consultation. General Pleasonton proposed to move his command eastward toward Harrisonville, suggesting the long march of some of his cavalry, which had come up from Arkansas, and also the importance of the Missouri volunteers being at their homes on the day of election, now near at hand, but Governor Carney and General Deitzler urged the necessity of discharging the Kansas militia, who, with indifferent equipments and doubtful pay, had left their homes and served faithfully in checking the enemy. This I considered reasonable and General Pleasonton concurred.

The militia residing north were released and martial law rescinded in all the country north of my position by the following orders:

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS,
No. —. } *In the Field, on Indian Creek, October 23, 1864—3 p. m.*

So much of General Orders, No. 54, headquarters Department of Kansas, as proclaims martial law north of the Kansas River is hereby revoked. The enemy are repelled and driven south. Our success is beyond all anticipation. The general delights to relieve the people north of the Kansas from the burden.

By order of Major-General Curtis:

C. S. CHARLOT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

From the same point I telegraphed General Rosecrans, as follows:

INDIAN CREEK, *October 23, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

Major-General ROSECRANS:

Your dispatch duly received. I have had a hard fight this morning before the rebels gave way, but about an hour ago General Pleasonton's forces crowded the enemy on my left and his rout was complete. He now retreats cautiously, but as fast as possible. My horses are in fine condition and we can continue the pursuit with success if provisions can be brought forward fast enough.

Very respectfully,

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

To this in the evening I received the following reply:

INDEPENDENCE, MO., *October 23, 1864—8.45 p. m.*

Major-General CURTIS,
Indian Creek, Mo.:

Your dispatch 2.30 p. m. received. Am happy to have such good news. I repeat my belief expressed in yesterday's dispatch to you that our combined forces can bring Price to grief. Infantry command can co-operate, reaching Little Santa Fé to-morrow evening, perhaps farther. Will use every available means of transportation to supply you via Pleasant Hill. Please use your influence to get the Kansas people to supply Pleasonton's horses. The result will amply pay them.*

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

Having thus disposed of the militia, Governor Carney and General Deitzler returned to direct their homeward march and muster out of those living north of us. General Pleasonton, with his division and my regular volunteers and militia residing south of Kansas River, now resumed the pursuit, arriving at Little Santa Fé about dark, when I forwarded to you the following dispatch:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
Little Santa Fé, October 23, 1864—5.30 o'clock.

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

The enemy is in full retreat and much demoralized. He moves directly south on and near the Line road. General Pleasonton united his forces with mine at 2 o'clock. Our losses are inconsiderable. We lost one gun yesterday and took one to-day. The pursuit will be renewed at daylight. After four days' obstinate fighting the men and horses are much exhausted and must have a little rest.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

On the 24th of October, at an early hour, we resumed the pursuit, General Blunt taking the advance as commander of the Kansas troops, which I now denominated as the First Division, and General Pleasonton following with his division, comprising Missouri, Iowa, Indiana, and other troops, which I denominated a Second Division according to the rank of the major-generals.

* For version of this dispatch as sent by Rosecrans, see Part IV.

My telegraph to you en route was indicative of the incidents of the day:

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
October 24, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

My pursuit of Price has extended down the Line road opposite to Paola. He makes rapid progress, but dead horses and debris show his demoralized and destitute condition and my probable success in overhauling him.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

I also sent the commander, Colonel Drake, at Paola, intelligence of my progress as follows:

IN THE FIELD, ON LINE ROAD,
October 24, 1864—12 m.

Colonel DRAKE:

Your post and all north are now safe against Price's movements, as the advance of my pursuit is now south of you and continuing rapidly. I hope fresh mounted troops will press down on Price's flank by the Fort Scott road, and by traveling night and day strike his train. He is scattering his heavy baggage along the road, but making rapid progress due south. I have fears he may move against Fort Scott, but shall press him so hard to-night he will not dare to make the divergence. Try to press provisions to supply us as we go or on our return.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

Our trains could not overtake us and we had to pick up forage and food by the way, as occasion offered. Fortunately the enemy left cattle along the road which generally supplied us. We halted to kill some of these near West Point when night overtook us. After about two hours' rest and refreshment, mainly on fresh beef without salt or bread, I ordered the march resumed, General Pleasonton's division alternating in taking the advance, and at 8 o'clock it moved on cautiously, the night being very dark and rainy. About 1 a. m. of the 25th General Sanborn, in the extreme advance, halted, sending back intelligence of his arrival near the Marais des Cygnes (pronounced in the country Mary de Zene), where the enemy was in great force. I sent forward Major Weed, Major McKenny, and Major Hunt to reconnoiter the premises, and directed General Sanborn to open on the enemy with artillery, designing to interrupt his repose rather than make an assault, but the darkness, rain, and washed roads precluded it. Major Hunt formed three squadrons of the Second Colorado Regiment in advance, close on the enemy, and directed them to drive the enemy's pickets in and take possession of one or two mounds that occupy an isolated position on the north side of the stream. These daring troops gallantly opened the contest about 3 a. m., carrying out this order, assisted by Colonel Gravely and a portion of the Sixth and Eighth Missouri State Militia.

BATTLE OF MARAIS DES CYGNES.

The enemy had gone into camp in the timber skirting the Marais des Cygnes near the town of Trading Post, making fires and other extensive arrangements for rest and refreshments. My day and night's march brought my advance close upon them about 12 m. of the 25th, and at 3 o'clock Major Hunt led three companies of the Second Colorado to attack and take a mound which commands the valley of the stream. This was gallantly executed. I had sent a special order to General Sanborn, who commanded the advance brigade, by Major Weed, to

push forward artillery and open at long range. This was retarded by the darkness, but the artillery fire commenced about 4 a. m. As daylight approached our troops deployed, moving in line against the enemy, who still occupied one of the hills and the timber skirting the stream. As our lines rose steadily on the side hill the enemy's force on the summit melted away, till finally our forces had secured all the commanding positions with very little loss. Skirmishers moved into the timber, when the rebel camp was deserted in great confusion. A stand was made at the river crossing, where the enemy was felling trees and firing cannon, but our advance was so close upon them they left their guns and the ford, retreating in disorder. Cattle, camp equipment, negroes, provisions partly cooked, and stolen goods were scattered over miles of the forest camp, and along the lines of the retreat. Few were killed on either side as the night and early morn attack created a general fright in the rebel lines and only random shots on either side. General Sanborn's brigade, being in advance, and the Colorado squadrons, assisted by my escort, which came up early in the skirmish, did most of the work. After following in hot pursuit for a mile General Sanborn halted his brigade for breakfast, while General Pleasonton led the advance with the remainder of his division. This battle of Marais des Cygnes was a gallant affair, commenced in a dark rainy night and consummated at early dawn after a day and night march, to the surprise and horror of Price's forces. They burned a public store-house formerly used by our pickets and fired many haystacks in the vicinity, but their loss of two guns, many cattle, sheep, and thousands of little necessaries for sleeping and carrying supplies, were serious losses to the enemy. General Sanborn being afterward separated with General Pleasonton from my command reported to General Rosecrans, so that I cannot give his version of this and other events of this day's transactions. Major Weed, additional aide-de-camp, of my staff, reports concerning his detached duties as follows. After reporting the matter of a proposed movement to the left by General Pleasonton, which I rejected as likely to separate us on the march of the 24th, he says:

The pursuit was continued regularly until 8 p. m., at which hour we reached West Point, when the division of General Pleasonton was placed in the advance for a night march, and at midnight reached the vicinity of Trading Post, a small settlement at the crossing of Marais des Cygnes, and halted. I immediately proceeded to the front, in company with Major McKenny, to ascertain the cause of the halt, and learned from Brigadier-General Sanborn that his advance had struck the enemy's column on a high mound half a mile north of the town, and that owing to the darkness of the night and want of knowledge of the country he could not and would not assume the responsibility of moving any farther until daylight. On making these facts known to the commanding general, he ordered the artillery of General Sanborn's brigade forward to open at once on the enemy's line. At 4 a. m. on the 25th, no firing having been heard, I was directed to go to the front and ascertain why the artillery had not been opened as directed some hours previous. On arriving there I found the battery just going into position about half a mile from the position occupied by the enemy during the night, and four guns were very soon opened on the crest of this mound. After a few shots had been fired Maj. R. H. Hunt rode up from our skirmish line and begged them to cease firing from that point, as their shells were falling in the midst of our own men, who had already driven the enemy from their position. I then learned from Major Hunt that three companies of the Second Colorado Cavalry, who had been in advance during the day and night previous, had, in the darkness and rain, pushed forward without support and gained possession of this commanding point. On returning to report to the commanding general I met Brigadier-General Sanborn, who had just left his quarters, and informed him of the facts above stated. I remained with the major-general commanding until Philips' brigade had crossed the stream at Trading Post, when I was ordered over with a message to General Pleasonton, and after delivering it proceeded to the front with Colonel Blair and Maj. R. H. Hunt.

Major Hunt, my chief of artillery, who commenced this contest at the Trading Post or Marais des Cygnes, says, after speaking of our march on the 24th:

> The commanding general insisted on the troops keeping on the shortest line. Marched all day and night; distance, probably fifty miles. Before daylight on the morning of the 25th I directed Captain Kingsbury, who commanded three squadrons of the Colorado troops, to take the hill on the left of the road, which he did in connection with Colonel Gravely, who commanded this picket-line, driving the enemy across the Marais des Cygnes, where they had felled trees to obstruct our passage. Quite a spirited engagement occurred during the passage of the creek. Our forces crossed and resumed the pursuit on a run. The enemy opened with a number of guns, one of which was captured.

Maj. T. I. McKenny, aide-de-camp and my inspector-general, thus reports concerning the night and morning operations of the 24th and 25th:

> The command was halted by order of the major-general commanding about nightfall to cook some beef at a small place called West Point. At 8 p. m. an order came from the major-general commanding directing General Blunt to remain in present position, that General Pleasonton would take the advance. Proceeded until 3 o'clock at night, it being exceedingly dark and raining. When the column halted I was ordered forward to ascertain the cause. Found General McNeil, who said he had his instructions from General Sanborn, in advance, to halt and build fires to dry. At this time an order came from the front to extinguish fires. I reported these facts, when I was again ordered to the front to ascertain from General Sanborn the cause of the halt. Found General Sanborn in bed some two miles in advance, and about three miles from Trading Post. He told me he had ascertained to his satisfaction that the enemy was in full force, perhaps 10,000 strong, immediately on the high hills in his front, and that he thought it unsafe to proceed farther. These facts being communicated we bivouacked for the night. October 25, General Pleasonton in the advance skirmished with the enemy across the Marais des Cygnes.

During that night Generals Pleasonton, Lane, and myself traveled most of the time between the divisions, but at early dawn we went forward and saw most of the conflict, especially the advance of our troops on the plain and the taking of the mounds. We also joined the advance movement in the timber, while our troops were skirmishing with the foe and driving him from the crossing.

Brigadier-General Sanborn and the troops of his brigade, Major Weed, Major Hunt, and Major McKenny, of my staff, deserve special commendation for their efforts in this battle of the Marais des Cygnes.

BATTLE OF THE OSAGE, OCTOBER 25, 1864.

Mine Creek, a branch of the Osage, and the Osage at this point, are small streams several miles apart, both skirted with timber and surrounded by open prairie country. After the affair of Trading Post, considerable delay and consequent separation of troops had occurred at the crossing of the Marais des Cygnes. While General Sanborn halted to breakfast his brigade General Pleasonton led the advance, consisting mainly of Colonels Benteen's and Philips' brigades, in rapid farther pursuit of the enemy. About three miles from Trading Post the enemy formed on the north side of Mine Creek and made stubborn resistance. The brigade of Colonel Philips, composed of Missouri troops, came into line of battle and commenced firing at long range, his men displaying good discipline and great gallantry. Colonel Benteen, whose brigade comprised Iowa, Indiana, and other troops, came up on the left of this line. Meantime the heavy roar of cannon induced me to hurry forward my own escort, with two little howitzers and other artillery, at the utmost speed. Colonel Benteen met some of my staff officers on his arrival at the left, who suggested an immediate cavalry

charge. The colonel had already resolved on this movement, and only waited for the same order to be communicated to Colonel Philips. Major Weed conveyed the order to Colonel Philips. Colonel Benteen's brigade came into line in a moment and dashed against the enemy's right, outflanking and surrounding it, gaining position on and beyond the creek. Colonel Philips also, with his brigade, moved quickly upon the enemy, so as to surround or overpower a large detachment of them, who immediately surrendered as prisoners of war (among them were two rebel generals, Marmaduke and Cabell), killing another (General Graham), and many colonels and other officers, and taking altogether 500 or 600 men. General Pleasonton, being in command of the advance, had directed the general movement and took an active part in the field. General Lane, Colonel Blair, Colonel Crawford, Colonel Roberts, Major Weed, Major McKenny, Major Hunt, and Major Curtis, of my volunteer and regular staff, and Captain Hinton and others of General Blunt's staff, were also very active in the field on this occasion, which occupied perhaps thirty minutes.

I directed Colonel Blair, who presented General Marmaduke to me as a prisoner of war, to turn him over to Lieutenant-Colonel Sears, Eighteenth U. S. Colored Troops, whom I directed to act as provost-marshal and take charge of the prisoners. I also detailed a regiment of Missouri troops to take charge of them, soon after informing General Sanborn and General Pleasonton of the detail. All this transpired as we moved forward, crossing Mine Creek, and while the advance was still skirmishing with the enemy. The rear brigades were also coming up at full speed and the enemy again forming on a hill about a mile in front. This point he soon abandoned, and we halted to form and close up our extended lines. After our rear brigades came near the whole force advanced with caution in two lines, our skirmishers pressing the enemy beyond the ridge which divides Mine Creek and Osage. He now formed on the Osage, and the rear of our troops still being far behind, although I had repeatedly sent orders to hurry them up, I mentioned the matter to General Pleasonton as somewhat remarkable. He told me General McNeil seemed insubordinate or neglectful of his orders and did not come forward as directed. His brigade being in front of General Blunt's division any delay by General McNeil also delayed all the Kansas troops. I then sent my adjutant, Major Charlot, with a special order, which brought forward the brigade of General McNeil at the utmost speed of his horses. On reporting to me the general said his delay was no fault of his, and it was evident General Pleasonton's orders had never reached him, which caused some misunderstanding. And he further assured me that I would find him ready to obey all orders as promptly as possible. I directed him to deploy as quick as possible and take the advance, which he did with great success. I also told him to continue to report to General Pleasonton, who commanded the division. Before this occurred, the skirmish line reporting to me as broken down from fatigue, General Sanborn, at my instance, had changed them by placing Colonel Cloud, of my staff, with some of the Second Kansas Volunteers, on this duty. Entering fields and forests Colonel Cloud continued the skirmishing to the valley of the Osage and beyond the stream. Meantime General McNeil, with his brigade, soon broke the lines of the rebels that had extended for miles on the heights beyond the Osage, and after about an hour's fighting in corn-fields and timber, where our troops manifested great gallantry in repeated charges, the enemy again broke in great disorder, scattering arms, utensils, wagons, and all kinds of equipments over the field. General Blunt's

division came up rapidly about the close of this battle of the Osage and began to deploy, but the flight of the enemy was so rapid I could not get all the troops in line before it was necessary to resume the march in column. All this conflict between Mine Creek and Osage, and including the fighting at both streams, occupied some two hours or more, and as the accompanying map* will show you, extended over several miles of onward march.

Being mostly a prairie country the troops of both armies were in full view, and the rapid onward movement of the whole force presented the most extensive, beautiful, and animated view of hostile armies I have ever witnessed. Spread over vast prairies, some moving at full speed in column, some in double lines, and others as skirmishers, groups striving in utmost efforts, and shifting as occasion required, while the great clouds of living masses moved steadily southward, presented a picture of prairie scenery such as neither man nor pencil can delineate.

I present extracts from the reports of my comrades who mingled bravely in the great panorama, showing some of the details of this eventful struggle.

Colonel Blair, now acting on my staff, after detailing his movements at or near Marais des Cygnes, [says]:

I here fell in with Major Weed, of your staff, and Surgeon Walgamott, and we advanced in front of the left of our line. On an eminence in rear of where their last line of battle was formed we came across an abandoned wagon, the first I had seen since the burning ones south of their camp. Finding a lot of books, letters, and papers of various kinds in the wagon we stopped a few minutes to make a hasty examination of the contents, and on resuming our forward movement I observed that the brigade on our right was some distance past us although we were still in advance of the one on our end of the line. Arriving on the table-land, which forms the summit level between the Marais des Cygnes and Osage, we again saw the enemy's line, and at this time it was evident he was in full force, although his whole line was not visible, his right being behind the brow of a hill which descended into Mine Creek. Meanwhile the gallant brigade on our right was steadily advancing, with skirmishers well out, though brought to a check, apparently unsupported, in the face of this overwhelming force. The artillery was playing with great rapidity and considerable effect. I looked at the enemy's line, close, serried, and vomiting fire; I looked at the dauntless little brigade which was unflinching and steadfast in its front, and then turned to the rear, and it seemed a fearful distance to the head of the supporting column. I called Major Weed's attention to the situation, and he galloped to the rear to hurry forward re-enforcements, as it was evident here the battle was to be fought and the desperate issue joined on which the fate of the south tier of Kansas at least depended. Advancing alone to see if possible how far the right extended behind the cover of the hill, the bursting in the air and the tearing up of the earth soon satisfied me that they were firing canister at an enemy that they supposed was advancing on their right and hidden from view by the acclivity immediately in their front. This conviction on their part, I am satisfied, saved the brigade on our right, as a rapid and vigorous advance at that time would either have overwhelmed or utterly put it to rout. I moved to the right to get out of the sweep of the canister and then advanced till their extreme right was developed to view, and then rode rapidly to the rear with a tolerably full understanding of the situation. Meeting Colonel Crawford but a short distance back I explained matters to him very hastily, told him they had commenced canister-firing, and urged him to go back and hurry up the troops, as he was acquainted with most of the brigade officers of General Pleasonton's division and I had no acquaintance whatever with any of them. He agreed to do so and again started to the rear. I then moved off to the brigade on our right, and when I arrived there found it engaged at long range and halted for our other troops to come up in line. The enemy's artillery was playing on this line with fearful effect and we had nothing but musketry to reply, but the men were steady and self-possessed and perfectly easy under the fire. I don't know how long it was before the other brigade came up. To me it seemed a long time, and I had ridden from this brigade back toward the enemy's right once or twice before it came up. When it did come on line the whole command advanced to short range, and for a time the fire was incessant and terrific. Both lines seemed like walls of adamant—one

* To appear in the Atlas.

could not advance; the other would not recede. The crash of musketry, the scream of shell, the hissing sound of canister and balls, mingled with the shouts of the soldiers and the cries of the wounded, set off, too, by the walls of fire in front and girdles of steel behind, which marked both lines, formed a scene more easily remembered than described. During this terrible conflict I passed along the whole line and met your gallant staff officers everywhere, counseling, encouraging, exhorting, and commanding, and the tenor of the whole was "Charge!" It was evident that our only safety was in a successful charge by which we might capture the guns. At length the movement commenced, slowly at first but increasing in velocity until it swept on resistless as an avalanche. A rush, a scramble, and all was over. The guns were captured, the enemy broken and flying to the rear, while our victorious squadrons were in almost breathless pursuit. So rapidly was this accomplished that when our left pushed forward into a field on the south side of the ravine the shell from our own artillery was crashing right into their midst. I was to the right of this, but so close that I could see this result, and also see Captain Hinton, of General Blunt's staff, in the midst of our victorious line. Pushing rapidly forward I witnessed the capture of Major-General Marmaduke by Corpl. James Dunlavy, of Company D, Third Iowa Cavalry. Marmaduke was endeavoring to rally his men and Dunlavy was galloping toward him, occasionally firing at him. Marmaduke evidently mistook him for one of his own men and started toward him, reproving him for firing on his friends. At least I so judged from what I could see and hear, and so the boy afterward told me. The boy stopped and coolly waited until Marmaduke got within twenty or thirty rods of him, then covered him with his carbine and ordered him to dismount and surrender or he would fire. Marmaduke dismounted and his horse galloped off. Seeing that I was an officer the boy proposed to turn him over to me, but I declined being bothered with a prisoner. General Marmaduke then said: "Sir, you are an officer. I claim protection at your hands. I am a general officer—General Marmaduke." I then took charge of him and informed him that I would protect him until delivered to you as a prisoner of war, at which he seemed very much relieved. The boy then spoke up and said, "Colonel, remember I took him prisoner; I am James Dunlavy, corporal of Company D, Third Iowa Cavalry." I told the boy (who was severely wounded in the right forearm, but who still grasped his pistol with vigor and energy) to come along also, and he should have the honor of being introduced to you as the captor of Marmaduke. On the way General Marmaduke complained of being dismounted, and Dunlavy promptly apologized, saying, "If I had known you were a general officer I should have allowed you to remain on horseback." Marmaduke then informed me that he was very faint and weak and could not walk much farther. Meeting a soldier with a led horse I took charge of him and mounted my prisoner. Soon after this I met Major McKenny, of your staff, and proffered to turn the prisoner over to him, but he was too intent on getting to the front to be troubled with him. On my way back I saw one or two general officers, but preferred delivering my prisoner to the commanding general of the Army of the Border, and you will remember that I accordingly placed him in your own hands, at the same time introducing his captor, giving his full name, company, and regiment. This is the true, unvarnished story of the capture of Marmaduke, about which there has been so much misrepresentation in the newspapers.

Having rid myself of this responsibility, I again hurried to the front. When I overtook the advance I found it halted at the foot of the precipitous mounds descending into the Osage Valley. Leaving Colonel Cloud, of your staff, here, Captain Hinton and myself pushed forward on to the skirmish line, away in the advance, almost as far as we could see over the smooth prairie, and on arriving there we could plainly see the rebel column moving straight in the direction of Fort Scott. At the same time a smaller column was effecting a junction with it and came from a point to our right higher up the Osage, and which was most probably the force engaged by Colonel Moonlight near Fort Lincoln. The column in our front moved off and disappeared from sight, while our own line still remained stationary in our rear. I picked up an orderly from the skirmish line, who belonged to the Second Kansas Cavalry, and sent him back with a message to Colonel Cloud, requesting him to get General Pleasonton to move forward, as I feared for Fort Scott, and at the same time got a citizen who had come forward with us to make a detour to the right and try to reach Fort Scott with a verbal message for the commanding officer to hold out to the last if the enemy struck him, as we were immediately upon his rear. Minutes passed and still our line did not move. I grew impatient and sent another man of the Second Kansas with a second message to Colonel Cloud, requesting him to see you and tell you that the enemy was moving in a direct line toward Fort Scott, and that to save it something must be done immediately. I feared that some one unacquainted with the topography of the country had led you to believe that the enemy was diverging to the east, as I knew at that time he was not. At length my suspense was ended, and the line began to move, and from this on there was no unnecessary delay.

Simultaneously the skirmish line also advanced. I waited until General Pleasonton came up (he being with the advance), explained to him the topography of the country, the direction the enemy had taken, my fears for Fort Scott, its situation, amount of stores, &c., and then hurried forward again to the skirmish line.

It is proper to say here that the delay at the mound spoken of and subsequently on the summit was only sufficient for General McNeil's brigade to come up and take the advance, which seemed absolutely necessary to relieve the weary troops that had before acted in front. Fort Scott was Colonel Blair's home and his regular post, and a few moments seemed to him a long period, besides Colonel Cloud was then in the advance by my orders, leading the skirmishers, and could not have received Colonel Blair's reports.

The movement was then rapid and continuous till the skirmish line was checked near the verge of the Osage timber. The woods seemed alive with rebel soldiers but in rapid motion. The skirmishers kept up occasional firing at them until the advance brigade came up and we all charged rapidly down into the timber, but the enemy disappeared before our arrival. Colonel Cloud was in the charge, with about sixty veterans of the Second Kansas Cavalry. He halted in the timber to rest his horses for a few minutes and I passed on with the advance brigade, which I think was Brigadier-General McNeil's. At all events it was commanded by a general officer. We followed down the stream some distance, crossed at the ford, and just as we were emerging from the timber on the south side the head of the column was fired on by the enemy's skirmishers. We soon dislodged them, however, and pushed on toward a corn-field on the left of the road. The head of the column was here checked by a heavy fire from the field, and it was evident another battle was to be fought. Accordingly the general (McNeil) formed his brigade in close column of companies, and made them a little speech while forming to the effect that it made no difference whether there was 1,000 or 10,000 men in that field, he wanted them to ride right over them. The men responded with a yell, the dismounted skirmishers tore down the fence in the face of a galling fire, and the column swept through it like a tornado. In the rear of the corn-field another line was formed on the prairie, the right resting on a skirt of timber fringing a small stream, while the advance of the brigade, rapidly deploying into line, charged and broke them at the first onset. A third line of battle was formed still farther to the rear, in a low basin, where there had been an evident intention to encamp, which was surrounded by a semicircle of hills, where they held us at bay under a severe fire for about twenty minutes or more, and until the whole brigade formed in line and charged. Before this impetuous charge they were again broken, and as I passed through their temporary halting place there was abundant evidence of the haste they were in, in the broken wagons, dismounted forges, fragmentary mess-chests, and smashed crockery with which the ground was strewn. The chase this time continued about a mile to the top of the hill south of the valley of the Osage, and on getting view of the enemy from the summit of the hill I was gratified to observe that he was bearing very palpably to the east, thus giving me my first reasonable hope that Fort Scott might be spared. I noticed, too, with increased satisfaction, that we were at least a mile east of the wire road and that for the first time the enemy's direction was turned from this place. Satisfied that I could render no further service, I determined to come directly here (Fort Scott) to see to a certainty whether the post which was my special care was safe or not, and to satisfy those cravings of hunger which, though persistently ignored for three days and nights, would still, despite of resolutions, occasionally become clamorous.

I refrain from adding the glowing compliments properly bestowed on others of my staff by Colonel Blair, although he and they deserve all he has written, for undoubtedly much of the success of this day's operations is due to their unceasing and extraordinary efforts.

Col. W. F. Cloud, acting on my staff, with a small detachment of his own regiment (Second Kansas), reports these battles as follows:

Accompanied by a small detachment of Kansas Cavalry (the Second), commanded by Sergeant Peck, I moved forward in the space between our extreme right and the left, giving such orders and encouragement to our forces as seemed necessary. In this order we came to a rebel battery, the men of which had ceased to fight from fear, at which a rebel colonel (Jeffers) surrendered to me, claiming protection for himself and men. Giving such directions as seemed proper for guarding the prisoners, I moved to another part of the field, assisting in arresting prisoners

and securing several pieces of artillery abandoned by the rebels in their retreat through the brush and creek. Seeing General Pleasonton upon the field near to a section of artillery, I moved forward and reported facts as directed, and then observing that he was directing the fire of our artillery upon a detachment of our own troops I so informed him, but was rebuked. Still persisting in my statements, I had them confirmed by an officer from the detachment under fire, whose assurances were united with my own and prevailed upon the general to give the order to cease firing, saying at the same time, "You should carry your colors upon the battle-field." * * * At the order of General Sanborn the Second Kansas Cavalry was moved forward as skirmishers, some mounted, some dismounted, and drove the enemy out of the woods and across the river. Here the enemy had another line formed, and our troops were ordered forward, the Second Kansas remaining in its position on the right, and in this order, pressing forward, we reached from right to left in the form of a crescent, which placed us in the advance of the center. When the rebels retreated from our steadily advancing army, my command had the advance from the advantageous formation of the ground, and leading in this manner pursued the enemy for the distance of three miles in a continuous charge until compelled to halt from sheer exhaustion of the horses, many of them falling under their riders.

Colonel Cloud was very active during the campaign, and his immediate connection with the capture of Colonel Jeffers and the battery of rebel guns at Mine Creek and leading the skirmishers at the Osage, are distinguished achievements which ought to secure his promotion.

Major Weed, of my staff, additional aide-de-camp and commissary of musters of my department, also participated in this day's fight, and reports his detached services as follows:

I remained with the major-general commanding until Philips' brigade had crossed the stream at Trading Post, when I was ordered over with a message to General Pleasonton, and after delivering it proceeded to the front with Colonel Blair and Maj. R. H. Hunt. Three miles south of Trading Post, with Mine Creek in their rear, we found the entire fighting force of the enemy (Shelby's division excepted) drawn up in line of battle. As only one brigade of our own troops had come up, I rode a short distance back on a road running parallel with and to the left of the one on which Philips' brigade had marched, and very soon met Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen at the head of his brigade, and informed him of the position of the enemy. He pushed rapidly forward, and on coming in sight of the rebel line at once formed his brigade for a charge. I then started to return to the troops already on the field, to urge upon the commanding officer a charge at the same moment with that of Benteen. Before reaching the command, however, I was accosted by an officer who pointed to the right center regiment of Philips' brigade, and asked me to take that regiment into action, and to tell the men their colonel would soon be with them. He then rode off at a rapid pace in a northwesterly direction, probably on some urgent mission. I at once rode to the head of the regiment indicated, gave the message to all the officers, and to lessen as much as possible the depressing effect of the commanding officer's absence upon the men, charged with and in advance of them. As they came near enough to the enemy's line to open fire I crossed their front and took position in the line on the right, where, in conjunction with Maj. R. H. Hunt, I did what I could to encourage and urge it forward. After the enemy's line had been broken and his whole force put to flight, I rode to the left of our line and assisted in gathering together and sending to the rear a large number of prisoners who had been captured with the artillery taken by Benteen's brigade. While engaged in this duty I heard of the capture of General Marmaduke, and some twenty minutes later, meeting General Pleasonton, who was just coming to the field, I informed him of the fact, also telling him that Marmaduke had already been sent to the rear. I then, at his request, took several squads of our men who had been separated from their commands during the charge and proceeded to pick up prisoners, who were scattered over every part of the battle-ground, some under guard and many making their way to the rear without guards and no guides except their own fears. After having performed this duty, I reported to the commanding general (who had already crossed Mine Creek) and was directed to proceed to the rear and urge forward the division of Major-General Blunt and the brigade of General McNeil with all possible speed. These troops had been delayed by the breaking down of some transportation wagons at the most difficult point of crossing, and some time elapsed before the road could be opened. I returned to the front with General McNeil and Major Charlot, and on arriving there reported to and remained with the commanding general until nearly sundown.

Maj. S. S. Curtis, Second Colorado, and an aide-de-camp on my staff, after the close of the fight at the Marais des Cygnes, went forward with General Pleasonton, and reports as follows concerning matters at the battle of Osage:

I overtook General Pleasonton and rode with him for some distance. When about three miles from Marais des Cygnes we commenced to hear firing at the front, and General Pleasonton sent orders back for McNeil and Sanborn to hurry forward with all practicable dispatch, while we pushed forward at a trot and canter. When we first heard the firing Benteen's brigade was on a parallel road to the one we were on and to our right. He immediately put his command on the gallop and we fell to the rear of his column, as the roads soon came together. Benteen's brigade broke into regimental columns as they approached the battle-field, and as they came up on the left of Philips' brigade went forward into line and right on into the charge. The enemy was cannonading Philips' brigade when we came into sight, but the musketry firing had nearly ceased. General Pleasonton requested me to take his escort company and support a section of a battery which just then came up. General Pleasonton went forward, and I directed the lieutenant to post his guns on a small elevation and shell the enemy's right where the artillery was posted. But two shots were fired when I heard the yells raised by Benteen's brigade and saw the enemy's line breaking. I immediately ordered the guns forward to a better position, and had just got them in position when General Sanborn rode up and directed the lieutenant to fire upon some troops on the south side of Mine Creek, and on our extreme left. I felt doubtful as to whether they were rebels or our own troops, but a second thought made me conclude they were rebels. Four shots were fired at them when I saw by their falling back to our lines that they must be our own men. I rode forward to the guns to stop their firing, when Generals Sanborn and Pleasonton both rode up and ordered them to cease. At this time the enemy's cannonading on our right had not yet ceased. The enemy by this time being in full retreat, with the exception of their extreme left, which could scarcely be reached with artillery from where we were without danger to our command, and directly in front of us, our troops were immediately on the heels of the retreating rebels. I told the lieutenant in charge of the guns to follow as fast as he could, while I, with the escort company, pushed forward to rejoin General Pleasonton. A short distance before reaching the creek I found Major Weed, who told me of the capture of General Marmaduke. I pushed on and told General Pleasonton, and just as I did so General Cabell was brought up a prisoner. At this time we could see a second rebel line forming on top of the hill ahead of us, and our troops being scattered in pursuit General Pleasonton sent orders for them to halt and reform. I assisted in reforming the line and sending prisoners to the rear until General Pleasonton again ordered an advance, when I advanced with him. I waited on the hill until General Curtis came up and rode with him to the banks of the next stream, when I rode up to the summit of the hill to the right of the road to obtain, if possible, a view of the charge being made by McNeil's brigade, which had taken the advance through the timber on Little Osage.

General Pleasonton, as commander of the advance division, acted with great coolness and propriety throughout this battle of the Osage, and if our battery fired on a portion of Colonel Benteen's troops after they crossed the creek my son, Major Curtis, clearly exonerates General Pleasonton from directing the matter, which was one of those incidents of battle which often occur. Colonel Benteen and his brigade evidently took the lead in the movement which captured the prisoners and guns at Mine Creek and deserves the greatest applause for personal gallantry. Brigadier-General McNeil concluded the matter on the height beyond the Osage with great success and courage. Nearly all these troops being of General Pleasonton's division and under his general supervision, he also deserves the gratitude of the country. General Blunt's division, crowding forward and augmenting the power and force which overcame the enemy, is equally deserving of the honors of the day. We were everywhere successful, and the following officers of my staff, although some of them have been already named, deserve special commendation for their unceasing toil and extraordinary gallantry at this battle of the Osage: Hon. J. H. Lane, Col. C. W. Blair, Col. W. F. Cloud, Col. S. J. Crawford, Maj. T. I. McKenny, Maj. C. S. Charlot, Maj. R. H. Hunt, and Maj. S. S. Curtis. Captain

Hinton, and others of General Blunt's staff, also took an active part. The reports of Major McKenny and Major Hunt are especially interesting, but the extracts here made seem to cover the entire field and facts, and I refer to theirs and others here submitted as well deserving of general perpetuity.

BATTLE OF CHARLOT, OCTOBER 25, 1864.*

General Price's rebel army, being closely pursued after the battle of the Osage, continued a rapid retreat. Leaving the Fort Scott road to the right and bearing a little east of south his movement soon rendered it certain that this most important post of Southern Kansas and the last in my department was entirely safe. Our advance under General McNeil, commanding advance brigade of General Pleasonton's division, pressed forward in rapid pursuit. Our way over the prairie was plainly, graphically marked by the scattered equipments, wagons, guns, utensils, and animals left by the rebels, and the fire and smoke created by their burning of the hay and grain and grass along their route. As the passage of the Marmiton, which we now approached, presented a new obstacle for the enemy's encounter he made another stand at this stream. This was to cover the passage of his train, which was a great incumbrance in view of our rapid approach. General McNeil attacked him vigorously with his own brigade, holding him for some time. He was then assisted by Colonel Benteen's, which came up at full speed. The enemy showed a line far outflanking McNeil, and General Pleasonton immediately sent back for re-enforcements. I met General Lane on this duty, who was earnest in his efforts to hurry forward the First Division, which was considerably in the rear, at the same time expressing his apprehension as to McNeil's ability to hold his ground until more forces could be brought up.

As I came near the scene of action I saw our artillery and cavalry making a vigorous attack on the enemy's center, which soon broke his line and gave us a decided advantage. Still the enemy greatly outflanked us, and his wings continued the fight as the sun descended the horizon. Another effort on our left drove the enemy's right to the rear, and his lines slowly retired in the twilight of the evening. A large portion of our forces about this time were moving to the right, as I first supposed to turn the enemy's left flank, but continuing in the same direction quite beyond the flank, I rode rapidly to the head of this column to ascertain the object. General Pleasonton told me that his troops were exhausted, and he was going to Fort Scott to rest and secure supplies. He was told, in my presence, it was only two or two miles and a half to Fort Scott, whereas in point of fact it must have been six. I protested against leaving McNeil and against any loss of distance in the march. I insisted on lying down on the grass and sending to the post for supplies, but General Sanborn continued to lead the advance to the right, and such was the cravings of hunger and the desire for rest, it seemed impossible to stop this movement to a place where both could be supplied. I sent word to General Blunt to hurry forward his division to support McNeil, but night soon came on, the battle ceased, and the lights of the burning prairie and the enemy's burning wagon train near the timber of the Marmiton was all that appeared of the two contending armies. Anxious to procure cordial co-operation between our forces, I went to Fort Scott and had a further

* Map of the battle-ground of Charlot (here omitted) to appear in the Atlas.

interview with General Pleasonton. He said his health would not admit of his further continuance in the field, but his troops might go on early in the morning after procuring some very necessary supplies. In the meantime General McNeil, with his gallant brigade of Missouri, Illinois, and Kansas troops, and the brigade of Colonel Benteen, which had done so much hard duty during the day, remained on the field in face of the rebel army. General Blunt, not receiving my order or misunderstanding it, followed General Pleasonton's troops to Fort Scott. I directed Major Curtis to hurry forward and cause rations to be sent on to General McNeil and General Blunt, but the teams meeting General Blunt on the way to Fort Scott, turned back, leaving General McNeil's force in a most wretched condition, much to my regret and contrary to my reasonable expectations and orders. The report of Maj. T. I. McKenny, of my staff, who was in the advance with General Lane and remained long after the latter had gone back to hurry up re-enforcements, gives a detailed and full account of this battle of Charlot in his report, as follows:

The rebels continued their retreat across the vast prairie without our forces with their jaded horses being able to bring them to bay until about one hour by sun, when they formed in great force near the Marmiton and about seven miles from Fort Scott. General McNeil's brigade promptly formed to resist them, the rebels outflanking him three-fourths of a mile either way. It was at this time, the rebels advancing, that General Pleasonton sent me forward to order McNeil to advance his right wing. McNeil replied, "I obey the order with pleasure; it is the most joyful news I have heard to-day." Colonel Cole now opened on their right and center with two Rodman guns, which did good execution and broke their column, our forces at the same time pressing their left, when they gave way. At this time our guns were pointed to their left, the extreme of which, as well as our right, was in low ground and could not be seen by the artillerists. Our shot falling immediately in front of our ranks came near creating confusion. At the request of General McNeil I rode rapidly to the rear and communicated the facts, when the firing ceased. Sun was now about one-half hour high. General Pleasonton, not knowing where he was, remarked that he thought he should order the troops to fall back to the last stream crossed (Little Osage), to the rear seven or eight miles, where wood and water could be had, as his troops were much fatigued and needed rest. I urged that he press forward, as I understood it was but a few miles to the Marmiton, and I thought we could drive the enemy. While we were talking a courier came from McNeil asking for re-enforcements, as the enemy was outflanking him on both sides, which was plainly to be seen, as he was only distant about one mile and a half. Pleasonton answered by saying, "Tell General McNeil to hold his ground until re-enforced by fresh troops." Lieutenant Ehle now arrived from Fort Scott, stating that it was but two miles and a half from that place. Pleasonton now gave orders to all his troops that had come up "to file right" for Fort Scott. A conversation occurred between Pleasonton and myself in regard to General Blunt's forces coming up to relieve or assist McNeil. The advance had got about one mile on the road to Fort Scott, when I, too, started for that place. I had not gone more than 800 yards when I came across a lake or lagoon, with plenty of water. I immediately addressed a note to General Pleasonton, notifying him of the fact, at the same time stating to him it would be a proper place for Blunt's command to camp, and provisions could be sent out to him. I arrived in advance of others in Fort Scott after a tedious ride of six or seven miles, instead of two and a half.

The distance traveled during the day and the frequent conflicts in which we had been engaged during the four previous days and nights had indeed exhausted men and horses; still it was my earnest desire to rest on the field, sending to Fort Scott for food and forage. But ammunition and other supplies were also necessary, and the erroneous statement of the distance to Fort Scott irresistibly carried my main forces to that place of abundant supply. The enemy burned a vast number of his wagons and destroyed much of his heavy ammunition, so as to materially accommodate his farther retreat. Thus all our troops, some on the field of battle at Charlot and the remainder at Fort Scott, rested a few hours of the night of the 25th and 26th.

When at Little Santa Fé, I received General Rosecrans' dispatch from Independence of the 24th, showing that he was then only about fifteen miles from me, but he seems to have taken a different road, judging from the following telegraph, which I received at Fort Scott:

GRAND RIVER, *October 25, 1864—2 p. m.*

Major-General CURTIS,
Commanding:

We arrived here to-day at noon; shall make Spring Grove to-night. You have so far outstripped us that the infantry will halt until wagon train comes from Warrensburg, by way of Harrisonville. Will have supplies sent out by that place to meet you.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

Arriving at Fort Scott, I immediately issued the following order, rescinding all that remained of my order concerning martial law:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 57. } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS, *Fort Scott, October 25, 1864.*

Fifteen days ago, apprehending an assault upon my department by Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, commanding a force of 20,000 to 30,000 rebels, intent upon the devastation and plundering of the State of Kansas, I deemed it necessary to proclaim martial law within this State and in the country occupied by my forces, in order to secure a sufficient force, with aid of the Governor, to avert disasters and maintain the honor and power of the Federal Government within my department. The enemy having been beaten in several battles, driven below the settlements of Kansas, all danger to the State from that invasion seems to have ended, and the restrictions and burdens incident to martial law no longer necessary in my command.

General Orders, No. 54, is therefore rescinded.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

Thus closed the eventful operations of the 25th of October, during which we had traveled near fifty miles and been almost constantly fighting the enemy. I telegraphed you as follows early the next morning:

FORT SCOTT, *October 26, 1864.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Price again deployed and fought us at Charlot, near this place, where he outflanked us, but was soon broken up by artillery firing on his center and a cavalry charge. While this was going on he burned most of his train and again resumed his retreat. Having saved this post by pressing his rear, I have supplies which I am arranging in half-loaded wagons to feed my troops. I think I have all of Price's cannon but three, and thousands of his arms are scattered along the road. I shall proceed in the pursuit with all the forces I can keep on the way.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

I am since informed that General Pleasonton sent a dispatch to General Rosecrans of this date or the day following, in which he represented the matter as a conclusion of the campaign and farther pursuit unnecessary; but General Rosecrans did not receive it till he reached Warrensburg in the afternoon of the 27th. The entire Federal force from Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, and elsewhere had exhibited the utmost courage and gallantry, and, as far as possible, had engaged the enemy wherever he offered battle.

FARTHER PURSUIT OF THE ENEMY BELOW FORT SCOTT.

The deflection to Fort Scott increased our distance nearly ten miles and otherwise delayed the movement, but it was partially compensated by our securing a good meal of victuals and a few hours' rest for most

of our troops, besides making many improvements in our outfit and supplies. My chief quartermaster, Captain Insley, and chief commissary, Captain Breckinridge, deserve great credit for the untiring exertions they made to furnish the troops at this time and subsequently. Major McKenny, Major Curtis, Major Hunt, and others of my staff labored most of the night in directing matters of supplies so as to resume the pursuit early next morning. I ordered General Blunt to take the advance and move early on the 26th, and General Sanborn assured me that he would follow promptly and support my movement heartily. Being thus assured of the united forces of General Pleasonton and my own regular forces I discharged all the remaining Kansas militia, believing our regular volunteers were sufficient for future operations against Price's broken down and greatly demoralized forces. I had up to this time avoided a formal assumption of command (although I had fully directed matters), supposing every hour that General Rosecrans would overtake us, and being my senior, claim and receive the direction of affairs. His dispatch of the 25th, dated at Grand River, addressing me as "commanding," and saying he would send me supplies, implied doubts as to his early personal presence. I therefore informed General Pleasonton that I took the responsibilities and must therefore have the direction of affairs. I ordered the prisoners to be sent back to Fort Leavenworth, where the new prison was ready and convenient to hold them, giving orders to provost-marshals to this effect. I had previously assigned a regiment of Missouri troops to escort the prisoners, and supposed all matters relative to them were satisfactory to everybody. I also directed half-loaded teams to follow my movement day and night with provisions and other necessary supplies.

Having so arranged matters in rear at an early hour in the morning I joined Colonel Moonlight in the advance to find the enemy's trail and continue the pursuit. After going a few miles I got reliable intelligence which induced me to send back the following order:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
In the Field, October 26, 1864.

Generals BLUNT and PLEASONTON,
Commanding Officers:

I have reliable information that the enemy have all crossed at Adamson's Ford and gone eastward. I therefore direct all forces to move by the shortest route to that point and follow me in pursuit.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

We struck the rebel trail near Shanghai, Barton County, Mo., about twenty-five miles from Fort Scott, where I camped for the night, and to allow all the troops to close up. October 27 we followed the enemy's trail all day and most of the night. The division of General Pleasonton was moving up on different lines in their several brigades. By a telegraph subsequently received from General A. J. Smith, dated Harrisonville, October 27, I was informed:

General Rosecrans left here yesterday for Pleasant Hill, and that point this morning for Warrensburg.

So it seems General Rosecrans must have relinquished the idea of personal participation in the pursuit about that place and time, the 26th, and he must have arrived at Warrensburg the evening of that day, when I was at Shanghai, Mo., twenty-five miles from Fort Scott. At Shanghai I heard some change had been made concerning prisoners,

but caring nothing about their change made no objections to it. As a further proof of complete harmony being secured as to our different forces, I received the following letter from General Pleasonton:

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Fort Scott, October 27, 1864—daylight.

Major-General CURTIS:

General McNeil's brigade moved yesterday after your command. General Sanborn is now upon the Lamar road, and will push until he strikes the enemy's trail and will follow it up as fast as he can. He has been directed to report often. My two other brigades are moving to join you, but from the exhausted condition of the animals this must be slow. My artillery particularly cannot go farther as it is, and not being able to obtain fresh horses, I have taken the best horses for four pieces and leave the rest behind. Escaped prisoners state that Price blew up his ammunition train yesterday, and has but one gun left. In reference to the prisoners captured in the late engagements, the misunderstanding doubtless originated from some of your staff officers not comprehending your orders. The Missouri troops felt hurt in not being allowed any participation in guarding the prisoners, and this feeling was increased by a Colonel Ritchie, who in the most violent manner began to seize officers of my staff and declared they were arrested by your orders. In this manner he arrested your provost-marshal, and as no remonstrance of mine had any effect on his conduct, I directed General Sanborn to keep him quiet until I could report to you. I repaired to your quarters, but found you had left. I then requested Major McKenny, your aide-de-camp, to report the facts to you, which he promised to do. A number of persons have since informed [me] that Colonel Ritchie's mind is so weak that he is not fit to be trusted with any business of importance. I trust this explanation will be satisfactory. Your arrangement for Captain Hall, provost-marshal, to take charge of the prisoners and escort them to Leavenworth, shall be strictly carried out, and I will see that he is furnished a sufficient guard, of both Kansas and Missouri troops, if he desires it. I have heard of no imputations or reflections on the Kansas troops, and my desire is that the Missouri troops should serve with them in perfect harmony. I was informed last night that General Rosecrans left Little Santa Fé yesterday morning to overtake us. I have not been able to hear of him since. From the effect of a severe fall and exhaustion from my late arduous services I am unable to move this morning, and I forward the certificate of my medical director to that effect, with the request that as soon as I can do so I may be permitted to return to Saint Louis, where I can obtain proper care and attention. I shall direct the different brigades of my command to report to you directly, and wishing you, general, every success,

I remain, very truly, yours,

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

I insert this correspondence to refute the erroneous reports circulated in Saint Louis during my pursuit of the enemy concerning my having grasped for these spoils of victory for personal advantages. My reply, written on the field immediately on receipt of this very good letter from General Pleasonton, will give better than anything else my impressions and expectations as to these matters, which were now some sixty miles in my rear. I ask for no false plumes, and pluck none from my comrades in arms, for my wearing:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
Camp at Coon Creek, October 27, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General PLEASONTON:

Yours of this morning is received, and I am glad to hear you have pushed forward your troops. Price destroyed a large amount of transportation and strewed the way with his material of every kind he could not burn. Straggling rebels are being taken and all appearances indicate the exhausted condition of the rebel forces. I am also well informed by intelligent men of our militia who have been in their camp as prisoners for three or four days that our prisoners in Price's hands are treated very badly. Several have been shot down in the presence of the provost guard; most of them are driven along on foot, after being robbed of their clothing, including their shoes. All this, however, must not provoke us to acts of barbarity toward our prisoners, but will be a matter of settlement when we secure the commander, which I trust will not be long postponed. I approve of your arrangements

for escorting the prisoners, and in view of your indisposition recommend that instead of taking leave of absence, to which your certificate of the surgeon entitles you, that you will proceed yourself in the same direction, taking a general charge of their proper care. I prefer they should stop at Leavenworth, as an exchange will probably be made and delivery through Arkansas may be most convenient and preferable; besides I will try to make immediate terms of exchange with Price, so as to stop the cruel march which Price's prisoners are now performing. I am sorry, general, that I cannot have you longer in this interesting and eventful campaign, but hope we may meet again and revive the incidents of march and battle that reward such signal success during our associations in this campaign. I highly approve of your efforts to maintain a good understanding between troops of different States and different departments, and assure you it will be heartily reciprocated by me. As to the matter of Colonel Ritchie, I hope you will authorize his discharge and I will guarantee no further consideration of the subject will be entertained. He belongs to another department, and as an act of courtesy I accepted his services as a volunteer aide, but do not wish you to make anybody accountable for his extraordinary and perhaps excessive zeal. Hoping your health may soon revive and you may long enjoy peace and prosperity,

I am, general, very respectfully, yours,

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General, Commanding.

I was not caring for the guns and prisoners which we had captured, now in my rear, but intent on the prospect of again reaching the retreating foe. For this purpose I continued the march that night, halting at 3 a. m. October 28, at the ruins of Carthage. Here we rested three hours for breakfast and foraging. I found exhausted rebels had been left here in a starving condition, one or two having died of hunger. I again hurried forward my own weary troops, confident of soon overhauling the enemy's rear. But understanding Price was cruelly treating his prisoners, I sent Major McKenny forward with flag of truce conveying a demand on the rebel general for the release of such of his captives whom in his extreme necessity and rapid progress he could not and did not treat with the kindness due to prisoners of war. But Major McKenny only advanced a few miles when he found the enemy drawn up in battle array at Diamond Prairie, and Colonel Ford ready to deploy our advance brigade against him. So it was inexpedient to convey this letter to General Price. Soon after the enemy, of his own accord, paroled and released them, and it is proper to say the charges of cruel treatment had been exaggerated. Some of our troops, under the immediate charge of Major McKenny, pursued him, skirmishing in timber for about three miles, capturing 3 prisoners. The advance again moved forward through Granby, approaching Newtonia about 2 p. m.

BATTLE OF NEWTONIA, MO.*

General Blunt being in advance, gave permission to Colonel Moonlight to halt his brigade about 1 p. m. to feed his horses in corn-fields, which were seen about half a mile on the right of the road. General McNeil coming up at this time in rear of Colonel Moonlight, and we supposing General Blunt's whole division had made the same divergence, halted his brigade, and with other troops joined Colonel Moonlight in feeding their weary horses. But I soon found that General Blunt had gone on with only Jennison's and Ford's brigades, and apprehending that he might overhaul the enemy with this small force I directed General Sanborn, who at this moment arrived with his brigade, to move on as fast as possible, following myself and directing General McNeil also to resume the march as soon as possible. Meantime the enemy had

* Map of the battle-field of Newtonia (here omitted) to appear in the Atlas.

halted near Newtonia, and as General Blunt approached was ready to receive him with all arms of the service. General Blunt deployed his brigades and immediately engaged the enemy, the forces moving forward and back alternately, but retaining general position and doing great damage on both sides. I arrived with General Sanborn's brigade near sundown, and saw our troops, some of them hard pressed and giving away. McLain's battery, badly cut up, was falling back for safety, under orders, and some stragglers also, for the first time in this campaign, were ordered to face about and return to the support of our comrades. Captain McLain, under my direction, immediately turned his guns upon the enemy and the stragglers turned back with a shout. General Sanborn threw his forces immediately into line on General Blunt's left and poured in a heavy fire. This was the occasion of new energies on the right, and a general advance of our forces routed the enemy, who retreated, leaving his dead and wounded in great numbers scattered over the field. It was now too dark to follow through the timber, and, the rebels scattering considerably, continued their flight, a small detachment going toward Cassville, but the main force changing their direction westward, taking the road toward Pineville. This brilliant affair at Newtonia is thus described by Major-General Blunt, who commenced the battle and sustained it gallantly until re-enforced, and afterward until the enemy were entirely conquered and routed. This is his report:

The rebel forces had encamped in the timber south of the town, on the Pineville road, with the view of remaining there until the following day, thinking that the pursuit of our forces had been abandoned, but on discovering my advance coming in view on the high ground overlooking the town of Newtonia from the northwest, they hastily broke camp and attempted to move off. To cover this movement they deployed a force of about 2,000 men upon the prairie to protect their rear. Being convinced of their intention to avoid a fight, if possible, I determined to attack them at once. The First and Fourth Brigades were with me in the advance. I had directed the Second Brigade to halt early in the day to procure forage for their horses to enable me to put them in the advance to press the pursuit at night; consequently I did not rely upon them to participate in the early part of the engagement. I had supposed that General McNeil's brigade, of General Pleasonton's division, was close up in my rear, and sent back to hurry it forward, while the First and Fourth Brigades of the First Division were quickly deployed in line, and under the cover of the fire of the First Colorado Battery (McLain's), posted upon the bluff, they swept across the plain at a gallop until within musket-range of the enemy's line. Skirmishers were rapidly deployed, and but a few minutes elapsed until the engagement became general. I now ordered forward the First Colorado Battery, which, with a section of howitzers attached to the Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, and under command of Sergeant Patterson, of the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, poured a destructive fire into the enemy's ranks. It soon became evident that I was engaging all the available force of Price's army, which, outnumbered me more than eight to one. Their superiority of numbers enabling them to press upon my flanks with a large force compelled me to fall back about 500 yards from my first line, which was done in good order, and the line reformed in the face of a terrific fire. The enemy pressed forward their center, but were promptly checked by the canister from the First Colorado Battery. It was now near sundown, and my command had been engaged near two hours and their ammunition nearly exhausted, while a large force of the enemy were passing under cover of a corn-field around my left flank, and my force being too small to extend my line in that direction, I was about to direct my line to fall back and take position on the bluff, when very unexpectedly the brigade of General Sanborn, of General Pleasonton's command, came up. I immediately placed them in position on my left, directing General Sanborn to dismount his men and advance through the corn-field, which was promptly executed, repulsing the flanking column of the enemy, who now abandoned the field and retreated rapidly under the cover of the night in the direction of Pineville, leaving their dead and wounded in our hands.

The general specially names Colonel Ford, Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, Major Ketner, of the Sixteenth Kansas; Capt. W. D. McLain, of the

Colorado battery: Lieut. J. B. Pond, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and Sergt. George Patterson, of the Fourteenth Kansas, who deserve the high commendations he bestows upon them.

General Sanborn's report was made to General Pleasonton and published some time ago. It does not materially differ from the foregoing, and hardly does himself justice for gallantry on this occasion. Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt commanded the First Brigade, Kansas and Wisconsin troops, who behaved, as usual, in the most gallant manner. Colonel Ford commanded the Second Brigade, and reports concerning this battle as follows:

From this time (after leaving Fort Scott on the morning of the 26th) until the afternoon of the 28th we continued marching night and day, with but short halts and small feeds, following at all times the trail of the enemy. About 10 a. m., my brigade being in the advance, we discovered the enemy's rear in the edge of the woods north of Shoal Creek. I sent two companies of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry into the woods as skirmishers, who soon reported that the party was about 200 strong and retreating fast. I then pressed rapidly forward, and, upon reaching Granby, ascertained that they had just passed through and that Price's whole army was doubtless at Newtonia, distance five miles. The advance soon reported that the enemy's train was in sight and but few men visible. I hurried forward at a gallop, and when within two miles of the town saw the rear of the rebel train entering the woods beyond town on the Cassville road. The battery was immediately planted on the bluffs and commenced throwing shell, while the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry and Second Colorado Cavalry were formed in two lines and ordered to charge down toward the enemy's train, the charge being led by the major-general commanding the First Division in person. We advanced at a rapid gallop, with skirmishers in front, until we came upon the main body of the enemy, who was formed three lines deep and the front line dismounted. The action was commenced in earnest, and for three hours with less than 900 men (my brigade consisting of less than 600) we contended with the enemy of ten times our number, and closed the day by driving him from the field, leaving his dead and wounded in our hands. During the hottest of the engagement the enemy threw a large body of men upon our left, their fire telling fearfully upon our small force, but the left, commanded by Major Ketner commanding Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, never moved or flinched, but answered shot for shot. The brigade remained on the field until 9 p. m., when it went into camp in the town of Newtonia.

Maj. C. S. Charlot, my assistant adjutant-general, asked leave to keep with the advance on the 28th, and he thus briefly reports his observations and gallant participation in the battle:

We crossed Spring River and reached Carthage, Mo., before daylight on the 28th, and halted the command for rest and feed three hours, when the column was again in motion. Riding forward I reached the front at 11.30, at Diamond Grove, where the enemy with their train was in plain sight. General Blunt came up immediately and ordered an advance. We had overtaken Major McKenny, bearer of a flag of truce, but the flag was ordered back, and Major McKenny, taking his escort, advanced against the enemy as skirmishers. Colonel Ford's brigade, Major Ketner, of Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, in the advance, went forward and messengers were sent to the rear by General Blunt to hurry forward the whole command. The enemy retreated rapidly out of sight, but at Newtonia the advance, under Colonel Ford, came upon them again. General Blunt came up immediately (about 3 o'clock) and ordered a charge, which was made by the Second Colorado and Sixteenth Kansas, the general leading in person, McLain's battery opening on the enemy at the same time, supported by the Fifteenth Kansas, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt. This developed their whole line, which now threatened to turn both our right and left flanks. Orders were sent back to McNeil, who was supposed to be in our immediate rear, and to Moonlight, who had not yet come up, but both these commands had been halted to feed, and did not reach the grounds in time to take part in the action. With the Second Colorado, Fifteenth and Sixteenth Kansas, altogether less than 1,000 men, we fought the whole of Shelby's division, and had succeeded in driving them in the center of their line, when General Sanborn unexpectedly arrived, and, rapidly forming on the left, charged the enemy's right, and our victory was complete. Night coming on pursuit was impossible, and the command returned to Newtonia, where the remainder of our column had already arrived and gone into camp.

UNFORTUNATE ORDERS AND CONSEQUENT DELAY.

Closing the affair at Newtonia (the 28th of October), with a complete repulse of the enemy, I gave orders for a renewal of the pursuit at 3 o'clock next morning. Price, being hard pressed, had paroled the prisoners whom I had sought to secure by Major McKenny's dispatches, and they, with the slightly wounded, were sent back to the rear.

I sent you the following dispatch:

NEWTONIA, MO., *October 28, 1864—8 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

We came up to the enemy at this place this evening, and General Blunt, in advance, immediately engaged him. General Sanborn, with his command, soon joined the advance and the rebels were again routed with heavy loss. They now run toward Cassville, where I shall continue after three hours' rest.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

Everything now promised complete success in view of our close proximity to the enemy, his exhausted condition, and his disastrous defeat. He was still in a fruitful section of Missouri, but by pressing him another day or two, he would have no time to collect supplies, and would reach the devastated, destitute region of Arkansas without provisions, and must surrender or starve. Meantime I had arranged for light rations to follow me from Fort Scott, by night and day, fast drives in wagons half loaded. The capture of Price's army in the Ozark or Boston Mountains, which were between us and the Arkansas River, seemed to me inevitable. But as the troops were commencing the march on the morning of the 29th of October, General McNeil in advance, I received the following dispatch:

FORT SCOTT, *October 27, 1864.*

Major-General CURTIS,
Commanding Department of Kansas:

GENERAL: Major-General Rosecrans has just telegraphed me instructions from Warrensburg to send Generals Sanborn and McNeil to their respective districts at Springfield and Rolla, and to conduct the remaining brigades with the captured prisoners and property of this command to Warrensburg. I shall therefore start to-morrow morning to execute these orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General.

Generals Sanborn and McNeil received corresponding orders by the same messenger and immediately prepared to carry them out, leaving only the shattered remainder of General Blunt's division, less than 1,000 strong, for me to dispose of. I was astonished and sorely disappointed. These orders evidently grew out of a misunderstanding of my ability to overtake the enemy, as I had done at Newtonia. I have since seen a telegraphic communication, dated on the 26th or 27th of October, sent by General Pleasonton from Fort Scott, to General Rosecrans, representing our successes on the 25th as a complete destruction of Price's forces and holding out the idea that pursuit beyond Fort Scott was needless. Whether before or after the date of General Pleasonton's assurance to me of hearty co-operation, these orders were in conflict with my hopes and expectations, arising from his letter to me of the 27th, and very unfortunate in view of the further pursuit ordered this very day (October 28, but not yet received) by the lieutenant-general. But there seemed no remedy in my reach. At Newtonia I

was sixty or eighty miles from telegraphic communications and could not get explanations to General Rosecrans in time to arrest the retiring of his forces, which General Sanborn informed me he would immediately commence. I telegraphed you some of my ill humor as follows:

NEWTONIA, *October 29, 1864.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

After our victory last night I started the troops at 3 o'clock this a. m. in farther pursuit of Price, General McNeil in advance, when orders from General Rosecrans, through General Pleasonton, were received, taking General McNeil to Rolla and General Sanborn to Springfield, and otherwise disposing of all of their troops, including my prisoners, who have remained in the rear. I am left with only the fragment of my own regular volunteers, not exceeding 1,000 fit for duty, and deeming it improper to continue a pursuit in another department, suspended by its proper commander. I shall return by slow marches to my own department command.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

Neosho, October 29 and 30, 1864.—Having telegraphed you at Newtonia and provided as well as I could for the wounded Union and rebel soldiers that could not be brought away, I moved with my little remaining force to Neosho, a homeward movement of twelve miles. Believing our campaign concluded, we sought and secured comfortable lodgings and food which we all much needed. But at midnight I was much and agreeably surprised by a messenger bringing your dispatches of the 28th, the most important of which was as follows:

WASHINGTON, *October 28, 1864.*

Major-General CURTIS:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that Price be pursued to the Arkansas River, or at least until he encounters General Steele or General Reynolds.

H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.

This dispatch clearly overruled General Rosecrans' order of the 27th, received by me at Newtonia twenty two hours before, and justified my immediate exertions to recall the troops of General Rosecrans to the pursuit. Calling up my officers I immediately directed orders such as the following to be sent instanter by couriers to each of the retiring brigades:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
In the Field, Neosho, October 30, 1864.

Dispatches just received from Lieutenant-General Grant require me to continue the pursuit of Price to the Arkansas River. You will therefore proceed forthwith to Cassville, by the nearest and best route, reporting to me at that place. This countermands all orders received by you from Generals Rosecrans and Pleasonton, concerning a retrograde movement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

These were sent to Brigadier-Generals Sanborn and McNeil, Colonel Philips, Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen.

I also telegraphed General Rosecrans as follows:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
In the Field, Neosho, October 30, 1864—1 a. m.

Major-General ROSECRANS:

An order just received from Lieutenant-General Grant, directing the pursuit of Price to be continued to the Arkansas River, seems to conflict with your order, directing the troops of General Pleasonton to their several districts. I have therefore ordered your troops to resume the pursuit, supposing it will meet with your

approbation, as there are no other troops sufficient to carry out the purpose of the lieutenant-general commanding. Since my militia have left me your portion of the command has been much the greatest and I have expected your arrival to assume the responsibilities of the movement against Price.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

I also telegraphed you as follows:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
Neosho, Mo., October 30, 1864—1 a. m.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch, informing me of the wishes of Lieutenant-General Grant, to pursue Price to the Arkansas River, is just received. I send couriers with orders to this effect directed to the several brigade commanders of the troops of General Rosecrans, who had abandoned the pursuit by his orders. I will proceed with my own force toward Cassville, hoping to concentrate sufficient troops at that point to resume the pursuit.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

Before leaving Neosho on the 30th I also sent the following more extended report, which was dispatched by telegraph from Fort Scott, November 1. These dispatches are set out in this report to make me properly responsible for my share of the influences that led to the action of the lieutenant-general and yourself:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
Neosho, Mo., October 30, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I desire the lieutenant-general to understand that from the commencement of the effort in this campaign I have had to occupy a debatable position as to my authority over troops, while a necessity pressed me forward. The militia cavil about going across State lines; and General Rosecrans' commanders, except one or two, ever since we formed a junction, expressed a conviction that they had done enough, and urged with much truth their long march and general destitution as the reason for delay. I used argument, expostulation, and orders till we fought at Charlot, opposite Fort Scott. Here General Pleasonton, without consulting me, flanked off most of his force and insisted that farther pursuit was needless. I did not know where General Rosecrans' headquarters were, for he had been shifting them, fifty or sixty miles in the rear, and matters required immediate action. I therefore informed General Pleasonton that I assumed the responsibilities and must exercise the prerogatives of rank and direct him to resume the pursuit. To this he yielded and ordered his brigade to join me. They were in full march when General Blunt overtook the enemy at Newtonia and General Sanborn's brigade came up in time to secure a victory where we had only been able to hold our own for two hours, with considerable loss on both sides. The pursuit was resumed, when the order of General Rosecrans came, directing his troops to their several district locations, and they immediately commenced to carry out that order. This left only my department volunteers, who had borne the brunt of the last battle and were sadly reduced in numbers, not exceeding 1,000 effective men. My militia had left me at Fort Scott, supposing very reasonably that the united regular volunteers were enough to pursue Price. I saw no alternative, and with mortification returned from the retreating foe. Both Generals Rosecrans and Pleasonton were a hundred miles in my rear and it seemed impossible to correct this mistake. I am sure they would not have withdrawn their troops if they had been present, both supposing I could not again overtake Price. I had fallen back twelve miles to this place, when I received your dispatch, informing me that "the lieutenant-general desires that Price should be pursued to the Arkansas," and I immediately issued orders announcing this to all the troops, directing them to return by the shortest lines to the pursuit. I still occupy a debatable position, and have telegraphed General Rosecrans my desire, that, as a large majority of the troops are his, he should come and assume the command. The necessity of pushing Price's force beyond the Arkansas is so obvious I have not hesitated to disregard department lines, and act only in view of results which involve the safety of our little garrisons in front, and the future peace of the inhabitants of Missouri, Kansas, and Arkansas. I was not well when I started and have been eighteen days without changing my clothes, but I am now well and willing to do all in my power to execute the wishes of the lieutenant-general, and only fear that con-

flicts or doubts in relation to orders may embarrass my movements. Price is now entering a mountainous country very destitute of supplies, and his men are actually falling dead of starvation in his rear. They hang together under the impression that we kill all prisoners, a falsehood well calculated to retain his force intact. He still has three pieces of artillery, and his numbers are very great. He has destroyed most of his train and is very destitute, but all of his men being mounted he continues to make rapid progress, which can only be overcome by extraordinary efforts on the part of our troops. The delay occasioned by General Rosecrans' orders will be equivalent to thirty-six hours, but it is partially compensated by a little rest and food which we were enabled to procure in this vicinity. I must say, in conclusion, that I desire to avoid all reproachful imputations against Generals Rosecrans and Pleasonton, who have acted no doubt upon their best judgment as things are seen at their stand-points. I must award to General Pleasonton high commendation for his skill and gallantry in the field. I do not mean to depreciate others, of whom I shall speak in my proper report, and who have not only been gallant in many fields, but are constantly willing to aid me to the utmost of human endurance to carry out what I consider a complete result of this campaign.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

The foregoing correspondence shows all the facts in my possession concerning the withdrawal of forces from the pursuit of Price. But for the presence of our united troops the people of Southwest Missouri were overpowered, and Price had everything, including the approaching elections, his own way, just as he had them in 1861, when he controlled the State of Missouri in this same vicinity. Besides, there were the posts of Fayetteville, Fort Gibson, and Fort Smith, below, near, and on the Arkansas, where we had a vast amount of public stores and several thousands of our comrades, who were at the mercy of Price's starving, stealing hordes. I had, as subsequently directed by you, sent a dispatch to General Thayer, Fort Smith, from Fort Scott, dated October 26, informing him that I was "trying to continue the pursuit till his force is entirely destroyed or beyond your post," and in every point of view it seemed necessary to press the enemy beyond these posts. Your dispatch of the 28th informing me of the wishes of the lieutenant-general that the enemy should be pursued beyond the Arkansas was singularly appreciative of all this. The only misfortune is that it did not arrive twenty hours sooner. An honest difference of opinion existed, as shown by a dispatch sent by General Pleasonton to General Rosecrans from Fort Scott, on the 26th or 27th, and as also by a communication emanating from General Sanborn, which is as follows:

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI,
Springfield, Mo., November 12, 1864.

Major-General PLEASONTON:

I have just returned from Cassville, and will forward my official report of the campaign in a few days. No one has fired a shot at the enemy since the battle of Newtonia, where the enemy gained great advantage over Blunt at first, but my command got in time to turn the enemy's right and the tide of things. The enemy lost very largely in men and horses in Northern Arkansas and the border. My idea was, and is now, when we got him below Newtonia and the region of grain mills and cattle we should not crowd him any more, but rather make an effort to hold him in this land of starvation, as we would a garrison out of supplies, until his army broke up and divided. Deserters were very numerous while Price was in this section, but I have seen none since he was pushed off toward his supplies. My own view is that all the efforts of General Curtis to drive the enemy—and they have been great and entitle him to credit—have been to our detriment and the enemy's advantage, for I believe one-half of his army would have deserted north of the Arkansas had it not been for fear of the pursuing foe, and the pursuit has been expensive; but the enemy has suffered badly, and all should be satisfied, I suppose. My dispatches from General Thayer indicate that the troops on the Arkansas will not attack Price.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

General Sanborn commanded the district about Fort Scott and Newtonia where Price's forces were foraging and burning and murdering, and if not driven out would also have returned on my department with his marauding bands of guerrillas, bushwhackers, and "deserters," which I desired to have as far from my lines as Texas. Having now promulgated your order so as to bring the forces back to the pursuit, I immediately returned to Newtonia, and on the next day, October 31, I moved toward Cassville as far as Gadfly, where I ascertained that Price had moved with his main force toward Pineville and resumed his position on what is known as the State Line road. I therefore turned due south and camped near Keetsville, making short marches to allow my expected re-enforcements to come up. On the morning of November 1 Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen joined me at the ruins of Keetsville with his brigade, about 1,800 strong. This force was composed of portions of the Tenth Missouri, Third and Fourth Iowa Cavalry, and some Indiana cavalry, all veteran volunteers, many of whom had served with me in my campaign of 1862 through this same country and shared in the glory of our struggles at Keetsville, Cross Timbers, Sugar Creek, and Pea Ridge. This brigade was the best equipped, disciplined, and commanded force in the field, and I now had about 3,000 men with sufficient artillery also so arranged by doubling teams as to move with the usual speed of cavalry forces. I moved forward and camped near Pea Ridge, Ark., where, as I telegraphed you, I expected McNeil would overtake me. This force not arriving I remained the 2d, during which period I received a re-enforcement of fifty men from Cassville, forwarded by Major Melton, who commanded the post. I also ascertained that my couriers sent to Generals McNeil and Sanborn did not overtake them till they were near Springfield, and being near they had gone to get supplies, &c. Still I hoped they would overtake me, but determined to proceed and press the foe with my 3,000 against their boasted 30,000. I sent prisoners taken on the road to General Rosecrans with the following note:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
In the Field, Camp near Pea Ridge, Ark., November 2, 1864.

Major-General ROSECRANS:

Understanding that you have ordered most of your prisoners to Saint Louis, I send you those taken since. I have waited the return of some more of your troops for the pursuit of Price, but will proceed cautiously with what I have, hoping to deter the enemy from besieging and taking the posts in Western Arkansas and to rid the country of Price's desperate hordes.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

After distributing a few rations that overtook us in a terrible storm of rain and snow I moved forward on the 3d, camping at night near Cross Hollows. During the day Colonel Benteen received an order from General Rosecrans directing him to report to General Sanborn at Cassville, transmitted through General Sanborn, at Springfield, on the 2d. This order was subsequently explained as having been issued on the supposition that I was still at or near Cassville, and on the supposition that it was so issued I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen to continue with me, reporting my conduct to General Rosecrans and to yourself.

My report to you is as follows:

CROSS HOLLOWS, *November 3, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Washington, D. C.:*

General Thayer, at Fort Scott, and Colonel Harrison, at Fayetteville, send me dispatches urging me forward to save them from Price. Three days unremitting rain

and snow detain me, but I hope my advance will reach Fayetteville to-night. Price's forces were yesterday on two sides of that place but were not attacking our troops. General Rosecrans, at Jefferson City, yesterday, and General Sanborn, at Springfield, to-day, ordered Colonel Benteen's brigade to report at Cassville. This is a material part of my force and I cannot believe these officers would again embarrass my operations were they acquainted with the circumstances. I hope therefore my order to Colonel Benteen will receive your approval and that of General Rosecrans. Your dispatch informing me that General Rosecrans is ordered to pursue Price to the Arkansas, does not as I suppose relieve me from concurrent duty implied by your former dispatch, expressing to me the desire of the lieutenant-general.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

ATTACK ON FAYETTEVILLE.

Camping in mud, rain, and snow at dark on the evening of the 3d at Cross Hollows, I was nearly overcome with fatigue, illness, and the perplexing orders which I have mentioned. My troops had built fires in the woods and began to enjoy themselves, when about midnight messengers arrived from Fayetteville informing me of Price's attack of that post and Colonel Harrison's successful holding against fearful odds; and his earnest desire for help. This post, eighteen miles in my advance, was commanded by Col. M. La Rue Harrison, of the First Arkansas Cavalry, with about 1,100 militia and volunteers constituting the garrison. Substantial earth-works had been erected, and though far from supporting forces it had for several weeks, especially during the previous ten days, been in a state of siege and the troops were on half rations. Price's main forces halted at Cane Hill, sending General Fagan, with 8,000 men and two pieces of artillery, to take the forces and supplies of Colonel Harrison. Their operations commenced on the 3d, and after investing the town they cannonaded the fort for several hours with very little effect. The storm, timidity of the rebels, and the gallant bearing of the garrison, prevented a charge on the works which the rebel officers tried to make, but with the close of the day they withdrew and went into camp around the town. I had sent a small party which had got into the fort during the night. Meantime Colonel Harrison's messengers reached me at Cross Hollows about midnight. As soon as my troops could be fed and collected I hurried forward with my little force, determined to make the best showing I could for the benefit of the garrison. The enemy not knowing my force, but doubtless supposing I was coming with all my former numbers, made a hasty retreat during the night, his rear guard leaving as my advance arrived about 11 o'clock November 4. A portion of the rebel troops, separating from Price's main force, went eastward under Freeman, following down the White River, leaving their broken guns in disgust and probably disbanding near Huntsville. The main force, however, moved rapidly back to Cane Hill and joined Price's main army, which was collecting cattle and other supplies at that place.

The accompanying report of Colonel Harrison is interesting, giving an account of his perilous position and gallant deportment for some time before my forces came to his relief.

I sent the following dispatch:

FAYETTEVILLE, *Friday, November 4, 1864—12 m.*

Major-General HALLECK:

Price's forces attacked and shelled this place, but retreated at the approach of my command. Colonel Harrison reports his loss as trifling. He will join me in pursuit as you direct. The enemy lost several, including one officer. He has divided, but seems to aim at a crossing of the Arkansas above Fort Smith.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

I sent a similar telegram to General Rosecrans and forwarded another lot of prisoners to him in charge of Lieutenant Quinby.

CONTINUANCE OF THE PURSUIT BELOW FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.

The broken lines at Fayetteville made it difficult to ascertain the route of Price's main force, and detained me nearly a day. During this delay and pursuant to your directions I ordered Colonel Harrison to join me with a portion of his force, leaving Captain Dodge's battery, which was nearly broken down, and the remainder of the garrison, sufficient in my judgment for the safety of the place, while we continued to press Price's general movement beyond. Giving Colonel Harrison the advance we moved forward on the 5th, our force now amounting to about 3,500. During the day I received a note from General Sanborn, dated the 4th, at Cassville, explaining the order of the previous day to Colonel Benteen as not being his—

Design to withdraw him from the face of the enemy or from your support but expecting him to be near Cassville, where I was expecting to be in person to-day. He will remain with you if Price is still in your front. My information is that his army has gone into the Nation. I will have positive knowledge in a day or two. General McNeil's brigade is a few miles in the rear, and will come forward at once, if there is any prospect of meeting the enemy.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. B. SANBORN,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

This showed me clearly that no other re-enforcements were in supporting distance and my boldness of pursuit must compensate for want of numbers, judging rightly that the enemy would not in his flight ascertain the relation of my troops to those in my rear. Crossing the Illinois River, I camped for the night at Prairie Grove battle-ground. During the day we found plenty of cattle, which now became the only food for most of my troops. Very little forage for horses could be obtained and the country beyond was still more mormallaceous and destitute. We left Prairie Grove at daylight on the 6th, driving scattering rebels out of Cane Hill and taking and paroling a large number of sick and broken-down rebel prisoners. Price had secured supplies of cattle at this place and his troops had commenced erecting huts, with the evident supposition that he would remain some time. Colonel Benteen's scouts attacked and killed some of the enemy's scouts or rear guard, killing 2 or 3 and capturing the old flag of General Blunt's escort, which the rebels took at the massacre of Baxter Springs. Benteen lost 2 or 3 in this skirmish. We went into camp about 5 p. m. near the ground occupied by Price's forces the previous night. November 6 we made an early start, following the well-marked trail of Price's army. His campfires extended for miles, and I counted over 100 head of cattle that had been slaughtered and the meat distributed among his troops. We pressed forward during the day and most of the night, when we ascertained the enemy had departed westward from the Line road, taking the valley of a beautiful little stream called the Sallisaw, which bears southwest through a portion of the Cherokee Nation, halting and grazing our horses on cane and coarse grass, which we found on the valley of this stream. We were evidently close on the enemy's rear, and my order of march for the 7th was carefully arranged for battle, Colonel Benteen in advance, General Blunt's division followed next, Colonel Harrison's force followed this division, and Major Ketner, Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanded escort and all that appertained to the commissary train. November 7 we started at daylight, our route leading through the woods and on by-roads in a southwesterly direction.

Horses, wagons, and property stolen from the Missouri marked the way, which we followed till late at night and remained until the morning. Among other articles a carriage, said to be the one occupied by Price himself, was passed on the wayside, and everything showed a hasty and terrified retreat. Our curiosity, usual on such occasions, hurried the advance forward, hoping to overtake the enemy. About dark we came upon a cannon which he left in the road, and after a few miles more, darkness and a necessity to close up my forces induced another halt. We had very little chance to feed ourselves or horses and resumed the march early on the 8th, uncertain of our whereabouts, but confident of the enemy's near presence as the prairie was still burning and his broken-down mules, horses, and baggage were again broadcast over his well-defined way. Colonel Harrison now had the advance and pushed forward with great vigor to the timber, far in our advance, which proved to be the timber skirting the Arkansas River. A few of the rebel rear guard were driven beyond the stream, and bringing up McLain's battery, we shelled the timber on the south side. Some of our troops crossed over and exchanged a few shots as they supposed with the last of Price's army. Our work was accomplished, and the shout that went up from the Army of the Border and the roar of our cannon resounded through the gloomy forests of the Arkansas, carrying to the camp of the starving enemy beyond our parting farewell. This crossing, selected by Stand Watie's Indians, is a little above the mouth of the Sallisaw, about twenty-five miles above Fort Smith.

A prisoner taken by the enemy, who had escaped or been discharged, a reverend and perfectly reliable gentleman, gave the particulars of the enemy's condition. His troops were so destitute of provisions, an officer being begged by a soldier for an ear of corn was told he had not a grain to give him. The elm trees for miles had been stripped to furnish food for the starving multitude. An officer of the rebel army whom we paroled at Cane Hill said that at Lexington Price's force was 37,000, but now he thought he had lost in killed, wounded, and missing from 8,000 to 10,000. All my information was to the effect that the enemy was over 20,000 strong, but many of his troops were volunteers and conscripts picked up by the way and were only partially armed.

The reports of my militia forces are so imperfect and those of others also I cannot give any correct idea of my own losses, either at each battle or in the aggregate. I was obliged to immediately separate my troops and start them homeward in different columns, so as to collect scattering cattle and the best grass to save our men and horses from greater suffering.

The reports of my subordinates and that of my medical director in the field show that our killed, wounded, and prisoners during the campaign may have reached 1,800 or 2,000. We nowhere stopped to bury our dead or take care of the wounded, feeling confident we left them with their friends, where their wives, mothers, and sisters could safely render them the kind offices so justly due to those who fell in this struggle for their homes and their country. Before separating from the gallant 3,500 that had accompanied me from the Missouri to the Arkansas, and from Newtonia, a distance of 200 miles, been my only comrades in this eventful pursuit, I issued the following congratulatory order, a copy of which I sent you as soon as possible after my return to the settlements:

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
No. —. } *Camp Arkansas, November 8, 1864.*

The object of this organization and campaign is accomplished. The rebel army under General Sterling Price has been confronted, beaten in several conflicts, pur-

sued and driven over 350 miles, from the Missouri to the Arkansas. This has been the work of fourteen days. Your marches have been incessant, sometimes for days and nights, in rain and snow, and generally on short rations, gathered from the herds lost by the enemy. Your privations, toil, and gallantry deserve the highest commendation, and the success of the campaign in which you have so gloriously participated, most of you from the beginning to the end, must entitle you to the thanks of your Government and the gratitude of the loyal people of our country. Your losses are considerable, but nothing in comparison with those of the enemy, who admits of a loss in killed, wounded, and missing of 8,000 or 10,000. All his cannon, too, a large portion of his small-arms, his vast wagon train loaded with spoils, and herds of cattle and horses, have been left, burned, and scattered, in the way of your pursuit. His army of 20,000 or 30,000 is converted into an unarmed, disorganized mob, destitute of everything, starving with hunger and far from supplies. Their condition is indeed so desperate as to excite pity rather than exultation. But the greatest achievement of this campaign is the driving a desperate class of vagrant associates of rebels so far from your homes and the State you defend. Besides this your stern resistance and close pursuit saved the towns and garrisons of Kansas City, Olathe, Paola, Fort Scott, Fayetteville, Fort Gibson, and Fort Smith, and the valuable public stores of those places, besides checking ulterior purposes of slaughter and desolation contemplated by the invasion of Kansas. But it would tarnish the brilliancy of your achievements to claim this for yourselves alone without acknowledging with gratitude the share borne in the brunt of the contest by the troops of Missouri and the militia of Kansas, who shared our dangers, and because of their greater numbers, especially deserve more of the honors due to the conflicts of the 24th, 25th, and 28th of October. But to you, including the brigade of Colonel Benteen, who have shared in most of these battles and continued throughout the long weary pursuit to the dark and turbid waters of the Arkansas, where your guns thundered in the rear of the starving, terrified enemy, must be accorded the special commendation of the commanding general and the generous approval of your country. The special honors due to distinguished comrades in this campaign will be carefully presented by the commanding general in his proper report to headquarters at Washington; and to secure the most exact justice to so many deserving commendation, commanders of divisions, brigades, detachments, and staff officers will make full reports, directed to headquarters Fort Leavenworth, at their earliest convenience.

In parting, the general tenders to the officers and soldiers, for their generous support and prompt obedience to orders, and to his staff for their unceasing efforts to share the toil incident to the campaign, his heartfelt thanks.

The pursuit of Price in 1864, and the battles of Lexington, Little Blue, Big Blue, Westport, Marais des Cygnes, Osage, Charlot, and Newtonia will be borne on the banners of regiments who shared in them, and the States of Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Arkansas may glory in the achievements of their sons in this short but eventful campaign.

The First Division, commanded by General Blunt, will move from the camp according to special instructions.

The brigade of Colonel Benteen will return to his proper corps command by such route as he may consider most economical and advantageous to the Government.

Colonel Harrison will report to General Steele at his earliest convenience.

Colonel Ford, with his command, will accompany the commanding general to his headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

By command of Major-General Curtis:

C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RETURN FROM THE PURSUIT OF PRICE.

As directed in your dispatch of the 28th of October, Price had been pursued beyond the Arkansas, carrying away with him the murderers, marauders, and bushwhackers that infested Missouri, Arkansas, and Kansas. He entered Missouri feasting and furnishing his troops on the rich products and abundant spoils of the Missouri Valley, but crossed the Arkansas destitute, disarmed, disorganized, and avoiding starvation by eating raw corn and slippery-elm bark. Having thus disposed of our foes, my forces being separated, made their way in several lines, scouring the country for cattle and hogs, their only means of subsistence. The grass also being entirely killed by the frost, afforded poor sustenance for horses and rendered it necessary for us to walk

much of the way and make short marches till we reached the vicinity of Fort Scott, where I arrived on the 15th, and taking more rapid conveyance reached my headquarters, Fort Leavenworth, on the 18th of November. I here received your dispatch of the 7th, which is as follows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., *November 7, 1864.*

Major-General CURTIS,
In the Field:

The Secretary of War directs that you assume command of all the troops belonging to the Department of Missouri, and now serving on the west border of that State, and pursue Price toward the Arkansas River or till he reaches the troops of General Steele or General Reynolds. Having completed this duty, you will return the troops to their respective commands. You will furnish a copy of this order to the several commanders, and also to General Rosecrans. Regiments or fractions of regiments belonging to Department of Arkansas will be sent to General Steele.

H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.

This order, as you perceive, was issued at Washington the day before I reached the Arkansas River and far from mails and telegraphic communication, yet seems to cover all my orders and movements down to my order of the 8th, distributing the troops that had shared in the final pursuit. Thus terminated my last campaign against the rebel General Price in thirty-eight days. The distance traversed, going and returning, including the various marches and countermarches of headquarters of the Army of the Border, is about 850 miles.

In conclusion, although I have specially commended most of my comrades who ought to be prominently named, yet I here again present the roll of honor, which I hope may be transmitted to posterity, and ask for the generous sympathy of their countrymen and from their Government the advancement due to those who have gained victories, conquered armies, saved cities, and increased the great aggregate of glorious achievements which are crushing the rebellion.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Maj. Gen. James G. Blunt, U. S. Volunteers.
Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Volunteers.
Maj. Gen. George W. Deitzler, Kansas State Militia.
Brig. Gen. John McNeil, U. S. Volunteers.
Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Volunteers.
Brig. Gen. W. H. M. Fishback, Kansas State Militia.
Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry Volunteers.
Col. Charles R. Jennison, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry Volunteers.
Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry Volunteers.
Col. Thomas Moonlight, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry Volunteers.
Col. M. La Rue Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry Volunteers.
Col. George W. Veale, Second Kansas State Militia.
Col. G. A. Colton, Fifth Kansas State Militia.
Col. James Montgomery, Sixth Kansas State Militia.
Col. William D. McCain, Fourth Kansas State Militia.
Col. William Pennock, Tenth Kansas State Militia.
Col. L. S. Treat, Twelfth Kansas State Militia.
Col. A. C. Hogan, Nineteenth Kansas State Militia.
Col. Sandy Lowe, Twenty-first Kansas State Militia.
Lieut. Col. F. W. Benteen, Tenth Missouri Volunteer Cavalry.
Lieut. Col. George H. Hoyt, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry.
Lieut. Col. Samuel Walker, Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry.

Maj. J. Nelson Smith, Second Colorado Cavalry (killed).
Maj. J. L. Pritchard, Second Colorado Cavalry.
Maj. James Ketner, Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry.
Maj. Martin Anderson, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry.
Maj. E. G. Ross, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry.
Maj. Henry Hopkins, Second Kansas Volunteer Cavalry.
Maj. A. R. Pierce, commanding Fourth Iowa, and wounded at battle of Osage.
Capt. G. L. Gove, Company G, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry (who commanded my body guard in early part of campaign and died from effects of exposure).
Capt. P. Cosgrove, Company L, Second Kansas Volunteer Cavalry.
Lieutenant Gill, Company H, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry (who commanded a battery of howitzers attached to my escort).
Sergeant Slonaker (same company, who served with these guns).
I desire to especially mention my own regular staff for gallant services on almost every field:
Maj. T. J. Weed, additional aide-de-camp.
Maj. T. I. McKenny, aide-de-camp and inspector-general.
Maj. C. S. Charlot, assistant adjutant-general
Maj. S. S. Curtis, Second Colorado Volunteer Cavalry, and aide-de-camp.
Maj. R. H. Hunt, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, and chief of artillery.
Capt. E. I. Meeker, chief signal officer.
Lieut. G. T. Robinson, chief engineer.
Lieut. C. M. Roberts, signal officer.
Lieut. J. R. Fitch, staff and acting chief quartermaster.
My volunteer staff were all active in the field and elsewhere:
Hon. James H. Lane, acting aide-de-camp.
Hon. S. C. Pomeroy, acting aide-de-camp.
Col. W. F. Cloud, Second Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, acting aide-de-camp.
Col. John Ritchie, First Regiment Indian Home Guards, acting aide-de camp.
Col. Samuel J. Crawford, First [Second] Regiment Kansas (colored), acting aide-de-camp.
Col. W. Y. Roberts (formerly of First Kansas), acting aide-de-camp.
Lieut. Col. J. B. Wheeler, Thirteenth Kansas Volunteer Infantry, acting field officer.
Lieut. Col. J. J. Sears, Eighteenth U. S. Colored Troops, acting provost-marshal of the Army of the Border.
Among others should be mentioned with honor:
Surg. S. B. Davis, medical director of the Army of the Border.
Surg. Philip Harvey.
Surg. I. J. Pollok, Second Colorado Volunteer Cavalry.
Assistant Surgeons Vance and Akin, Second Colorado Volunteer Cavalry.
Capt. W. D. McLain, Independent Battery Colorado Volunteers.
Lieut. G. S. Eayre, Independent Battery Colorado Volunteers.
Lieutenant Beach, Independent Battery Colorado Volunteers.
Capt. J. H. Dodge, Ninth Battery Wisconsin Volunteers.
Lieutenant Hicks, Ninth Battery Wisconsin Volunteers.
Lieut. W. H. Pierce, Second Colorado Volunteers, acting ordnance officer in the field.

Major-General Blunt in his report honorably mentions the names of those on his regular and volunteer staff:

Capt. George S. Hampton, assistant adjutant-general.

Capt. R. J. Hinton, Second Kansas (colored), acting aide-de-camp.

Capt. B. F. Simpson, acting assistant quartermaster.

Capt. George J. Clark, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, acting ordnance officer.

Lieut. Col. John T. Burris (late of Tenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry), volunteer aide-de-camp.

Maj. R. G. Ward, First Kansas Colored Volunteers, volunteer aide-de-camp.

Maj. T. H. Penney (late of Thirty-fifth Missouri Volunteers), volunteer aide-de-camp.

Capt. A. J. Shannon, district provost-marshal and acting division provost-marshal.

Capt. T. E. Milhoan (late Tenth Kansas), acting aide-de-camp.

Second Lieut. W. B. Clark, Company E, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, commanding escort.

I also present the names of:

Captain Carpenter, commanding battalion Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

Lieut. J. B. Pond, commanding battalion Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

Lieut. John Crites, Company D, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

Lieut. Joseph Mackle, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, acting assistant adjutant-general.

Lieut. W. H. Bisbee, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, regimental adjutant.

Captain Young, Fifth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry.

Lieutenant Taber, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, acting assistant adjutant-general.

Lieutenant Goble, Company L, Fifth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry.

Surgeon Ainsworth and Assistant Surgeon Adams, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry; Sergt. Maj. I. H. Isbell, Quartermaster Sergeant W. H. Cowan, and Chief Bugler N. D. Horton, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, for gallantry in the field are deserving promotion.

Lieutenant-Colonel Morris, Tenth Kansas State Militia.

Lieutenant-Colonel Eves, Twenty-fourth Kansas State Militia.

Major Smith, Nineteenth Kansas State Militia.

Major Wiley, Tenth Kansas State Militia.

Maj. C. Willets, volunteer aide to Colonel Blair.

Lieut. L. J. Beam, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, acting assistant adjutant-general.

Lieut. James Aitken, Twenty-fourth Kansas State Militia (severely wounded at Westport).

Sergeant-Major Rebstein, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry.

Sergt. A. C. Greenleaf, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry.

Private Van Valkenburg, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry.

Capt. W. H. Greene, Second Colorado Volunteer Cavalry.

Lieut. R. S. Roe, Second Colorado Cavalry, acting assistant-adjutant-general.

Lieut. William Wise, Second Colorado Cavalry.

Lieut. J. Fenton Seymour, Second Colorado Cavalry (who was wounded at Little Blue).

Captain Kingsbury, Second Colorado Cavalry.

Captain Elmer, Second Colorado Cavalry.

Captain Boyd, Second Colorado Cavalry.

Sergt. Samuel T. Ferree, Company I, Second Colorado Cavalry (gallantry at Newtonia).

Capt. Thomas Moses, Company C, Second Colorado Cavalry (wounded at Newtonia).

All the names thus presented deserve honorable mention for uniform gallantry and energy.

I must also include some, reluctantly left in my rear to attend to my support of men and means, and for earnest and successful exertions, therefore deserving this presentation:

Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Davies, commanding District of North Kansas.

Col. Werter R. Davis, commanding post at Fort Leavenworth.

Colonel Coates, Enrolled Missouri Militia, Kansas City, Mo.

Maj. F. E. Hunt, chief paymaster, in command of artillery at the post and city of Leavenworth.

Maj. H. H. Heath, provost-marshal-general.

Maj. E. S. Hubbard, Kansas State Militia, commanding at Wyandotte.

Surgeon Buckmaster, medical director of the department.

Capt. John Willans, assistant adjutant-general, headquarters Fort Leavenworth.

Capt. H. C. Hodges, depot quartermaster, Fort Leavenworth.

Capt. John McNutt, chief of ordnance, Fort Leavenworth.

Capt. Robert Graham, depot commissary, Fort Leavenworth.

Capt. Edgar Seelye, depot quartermaster at Kansas City, and till after the battle of Westport, acting chief quartermaster of the army.

I name also as deserving honorable mention for active exertions in protecting the border, the post of Paola, and town of Mound City, and for gallantry on the march, and at the latter place on the night of the 24th and morning of the 25th of October, the names of:

Col. Thomas Moonlight, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, commanding brigade.

Lieut. Col. Samuel A. Drake, Seventeenth Kansas Volunteers (100-day's men).

Capt. S. W. Greer, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, commanding, Mound City.

Captain Parks, Kansas State Militia, wounded at Mound City, also Privates Williams and Manlove, Kansas State Militia (the latter being killed at Mound City).

Distances traveled by the Army of the Border.

		Miles.
Oct. 13.	From Fort Leavenworth to Olathe	28
14.	To Wyandotte, via Shawnee	29
15.	To Hickman Mills and return	48
17.	To Kansas City	4
19.	To Independence	12
21.	To Little Blue	9
21.	To Big Blue	15
22.	To Kansas City	6
23.	To Little Santa Fé	15
24.	To Marais des Cygnes	56
25.	To Fort Scott	36
26.	To Shanghai	27
27.	To Carthage	42
28.	To Newtonia	30
29.	To Neosho	10
30.	Back to Newtonia	10
31.	To Keetsville	27

Nov. 1.	To Pea Ridge	10
3.	To Cross Hollows	15
4.	To Fayetteville	20
5.	To Prairie Grove	11
6.	To Cane Hill	25
7.		30
8.		12
	Back again	320
	Total	847

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

[Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.]

No. 65.

Report of Maj. Chapman S. Charlot, U. S. Army, Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, December 13, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the history and operations of the Army of the Border and the share it took in the pursuit of Price in 1864:

As early as September 13 the commander of the Department of the Missouri received information of the crossing of the Arkansas by Price and his army and of their march in the direction of Kansas and Missouri. You were then encamped on the Solomon River with a small force of volunteers and militia hastily collected for a campaign against the Indians who had lately been committing depredations in the western part of your command. Immediately on your return, September 17, measures were taken to secure the safety of the threatened border as far as was possible with the very limited force in the department, and on the 20th you telegraphed to the Governor of Kansas to notify the militia to be ready to co-operate in the defense of the State, proposing to the Governor, as far as possible, to use the militia only in garrisoning posts and to send forward the volunteers thus relieved. Notice same day was also telegraphed to General Rosecrans of the farther advance of the rebels, and on the 23d that Price was reported at Cane Hill. Of his movements and progress, however, our chief source of information was through Major-General Rosecrans, and they seem to have been so mysteriously conducted as to leave that distinguished officer in considerable doubt as to whether there was any enemy advancing on us from the south or not; *e. g.:* On the 24th of September General Rosecrans telegraphed you that he "does not credit" General Steele's dispatches that "Price, with 5,000 to 10,000 mounted infantry and seventeen pieces of artillery" was at Pocahontas on the 22d; on the 24th, that "there is reason to believe that Price is north of the Arkansas line in Southern Missouri, &c.;" on the 26th, "my present impression is that he (Price) will come toward Jefferson City between Rolla and Lebanon and pass out toward Kansas," at the same time advising against any movement "too far south," rather to wait until "his (Price's) strength and intentions in Missouri are developed," and especially urging the

retention of Colonel Ford's (Second Colorado) regiment in the neighborhood of Kansas City. Again incredulous on the 28th. On the 29th he telegraphs the attack on Pilot Knob by Price in person and declares that "the question of Price's being in Missouri is settled."

On the 26th, however, you had begun moving troops in view of the danger to Kansas from Price and his rebel army in Missouri. Colonel Ford, whose regiment had just been reported to you, was directed to move south to a point near Paola, and the utmost vigilance was enjoined upon Colonel Blair, commanding at Fort Scott, and Colonel Jennison, at Mound City. On the 2d of October General Sykes, commanding District of South Kansas, was directed to assemble forces at Olathe, including such of the militia as he might be able to collect in that vicinity. Same day Governor Carney, in response to your appeal to him for the aid of the militia, proposed to you to make a formal written demand upon him which he might publish as the basis of his action in calling out the militia. Colonel Ford, now at Independence, was ordered to send out scouts toward the enemy, who were reported advancing from Franklin and Washington on the Missouri River, and to keep in communication with General Brown, commanding at Warrensburg. On the 4th Price was rapidly advancing on Jefferson City, and on the 5th, his purpose to strike immediately for Kansas being fully developed, the desired letter was addressed to Governor Carney, and next day, 6th, General Rosecrans was urged to push forward his forces in the rear of the enemy, that "delay is disastrous." Daily dispatches were sent to commanding officers to obtain more accurate information of the movements of the enemy. At the same time every effort was made to hurry forward the militia. On the 8th, after repeated dispatches to the Governor to "hurry up the militia," each more urgent than the last, the Governor's proclamation was issued. The result proved that the movement was not made too soon. On the 10th Price was reported west of Jefferson City and martial law was declared, "to extend throughout the State of Kansas and the territory occupied by the troops moving therefrom." General Blunt was ordered to Paola and placed in command of the District of South Kansas, Maj. Gen. G. W. Deitzler, Kansas State Militia, commanding the militia, which was reported as turning out promptly throughout the border counties. On the 11th, when the commanding general took the field in person, the troops out of which was to be created "the Army of the Border" consisted of the Second Colorado Cavalry, Col. James H. Ford, moving from Pleasant Hill to Hickman Mills, and constituting the advance; the Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, Col. Thomas Moonlight, headquarters at Paola; the Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, Col. C. R. Jennison, headquarters at Mound City, and a detachment of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Samuel Walker, First Colorado Battery, Capt. W. D. McLain, at Paola, and Ninth Wisconsin Battery, Capt. J. H. Dodge, at Fort Riley. The militia, though rapidly assembling, had yet to be organized, armed and equipped, and on the 13th, when we left Olathe for Kansas City, the commanding general found himself quite in advance of his troops. Orders were issued to Major-General Blunt, commanding the right wing, Army of the Border, to concentrate at Hickman Mills, while the militia, constituting the left wing, under Major-General Deitzler, Kansas State Militia, were to assemble at Shawnee, on the State line, with a view of throwing forward the left in the direction of Kansas City and Independence. On the 14th we camped at Wyandotte, and the next day we proceeded to Independence, thence to Hickman Mills, returning same night to camp in Wyandotte. On the 16th Ford was at Independ-

ence with a portion of his own regiment and a battalion of the Sixteenth Kansas; Blunt at Hickman Mills, with Jennison's, Moonlight's, and Blair's brigades, and Deitzler at Shawneetown, with about 3,000 militia.

On the 17th Blunt moved forward toward Lexington with Jennison and Moonlight, and Deitzler to Independence with a portion of his command. Colonel Blair, at Hickman Mills, was ordered to move forward in support of Deitzler, and Colonel Learnard, at Shawnee, was directed to hold the militia at that point in readiness to move wherever they could best co-operate in the effort to crush the foe. 16th, 17th, and 18th, general headquarters were at Camp Charlot, near Kansas City. Orders were issued to provide the militia with blankets as far as possible, and to send forward rations to Independence, and every effort was made to complete the organization and equipment of our little army and to render it effective for a rapid and successful campaign. Scouts were kept actively at work, parties sent out to repair telegraph lines, and the most satisfactory information was obtained that Price was advancing with his main body in the neighborhood of Lexington. Considerable dissatisfaction was manifested, and some difficulty occurred among the militia force on being ordered beyond the State line and into Missouri, but the firmness and energy of Colonel Ford, General Blunt, and, above all, the presence and personal influence of the commanding general, prevented any serious trouble, and soon restored harmony to the command. On the 19th general headquarters were moved forward to Independence, and at 4 o'clock the following morning report reached camp that Blunt, having met and fought Price's main force at Lexington, was falling back and had taken position on the Little Blue. Lieutenant Smith, in command of M Company, Third Regiment Kansas State Militia, was ordered to scout out five to ten miles beyond Blunt's position, feel the enemy, and send back intelligence, and Major McKenny was sent to Colonel Ford to give orders that the main road to Kansas City be kept open for military purposes. Captain Hyde, Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, was ordered to take the steamer Tom Morgan and twenty men of his company and proceed down the river not farther than Lexington, and if fired upon by artillery to turn back, proceed to Kansas City, and report by telegraph. General Blunt arrived from the front with Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry and Third Wisconsin, leaving Colonel Moonlight holding the crossing at the Little Blue.

At 7 o'clock morning of the 21st Moonlight was attacked by the enemy in force, and, with 500 men and two howitzers, fought gallantly for two hours, falling back two miles, when Colonel Ford, with his regiment, came to his support, and at 10 o'clock General Blunt came up with Jennison's command, consisting of the Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, in command of Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, followed immediately by the major-general commanding and staff, General Curtis directing in person, and exposed to a very hot fire of artillery and small-arms for two hours, and until recalled by General Lane, volunteer aide-de-camp. Our boys fought nobly all day, contesting every inch of ground, and making good their retreat to Independence in the face of Price's entire command, estimated at 25,000 cavalry, without losing a gun, camping on the Big Blue after dark, tired, and glad to be "let alone." Prisoners report Price in command in person, with 40,000 men.

In the battle of the Little Blue General Blunt was everywhere in the thickest of the fight, directing movements of his slender command regardless of shot and shell. He estimates our loss, killed, wounded, and missing, at 200. Colonel Moonlight, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry,

estimates his loss at 100 killed and wounded. Colonel Ford reports his loss about 60, including Major Smith, killed while gallantly leading his men in a charge. General Curtis was attended on the field by Hon. James H. Lane and Col. John Ritchie, volunteer aides-de-camp; Major McKenny, aide-de-camp; Major Charlot, assistant adjutant-general; Captain Meeker, chief signal officer; Lieutenant Roberts, acting aide-de-camp; Lieutenant Hubbard, acting assistant adjutant-general, and Lieutenant Quinby, acting signal officer, also acting aide-de-camp. Col. S. J. Crawford, volunteer aide-de-camp, was on the field until ordered back to assist General Deitzler in forming our line on the Big Blue. Major Hunt, of the staff, was in the thickest of the fight commanding section of howitzers, supported by the general's body guard.

Early on the morning of the 22d we were "in the saddle" and "to the front," the general in person correcting the position of batteries and lines. General Grant, of the Kansas militia, was ordered to send scouts out toward Pleasant Hill, and also toward Independence, to give notice of any flank movement by the enemy, and send reports every thirty minutes. Col. J. J. Sears (lieutenant-colonel Eighteenth U. S. Colored Infantry), reported and assigned to duty as volunteer aide-de-camp, was sent to General Blunt with orders to send information every thirty minutes. General Lane having reported column of enemy moving west of our position, General Blunt was directed to send Colonel Moonlight with his brigade to look after it, and guard against any flank movement, and Colonel Cloud, volunteer aide-de-camp, ordered to Westport to halt the militia where they are until further orders. At this time, 11 o'clock, Jennison was holding Byram's Ford and Moonlight Hinkle's Ford. Colonel Ford reporting that heavy columns of enemy were moving in direction of those fords, Generals Deitzler and Blunt were both ordered to send forward re-enforcements. We held the line of the Big Blue until 3 o'clock, when the enemy in large force turned our right flank, and orders were issued to the several commanding officers to withdraw within the lines of the fortifications at Kansas City, which was successfully accomplished by 6 o'clock. An hour afterward, news having been received that Pleasonton was in the rear of the enemy with a considerable force, General Deitzler was ordered to re-enforce Moonlight and Jennison, who were holding the advance position. A prisoner, Captain Van Valkenburgh, commissary of subsistence rebel army, reports Price in command in person, with 35,000 troops, under Shelby, Marmaduke, Fagan, and Tyler, division commanders.

Sunday, 23d, was fought the battle of Westport. Our troops were under arms at daylight, and almost immediately the commands of Colonels Jennison, Ford, and Moonlight were hotly engaged, the enemy largely outnumbering us and pressing us back upon the town of Westport. Colonel Blair was ordered forward with his militia brigade on the right, and the Second Colorado, Fifteenth and Sixteenth Kansas, were ordered to charge in center and left, which was handsomely done, while McLain's battery and the escort of howitzers were doing fine execution among the heavy ranks of the enemy, whose lines threatened to envelop our little army. By 12 o'clock Pleasonton's guns on our left could be distinctly heard, and before two hours the rebels gave way in all directions, retreating rapidly and directly south. At 2.30 p. m. the general and staff halted an hour at Indian Creek, ten miles from Westport, where General Pleasonton and staff were already waiting. After an interview, at which were present Generals Curtis, Blunt, Pleasonton, Deitzler, Governor Carney, and Senator Lane, and a number of staff officers, we continued our march to Little Santa Fé, where

the command bivouacked for the night. Daylight 24th, pursuit renewed by the combined forces of Generals Curtis and Pleasonton, General Blunt's division in the advance. The general and staff left camp at 8 o'clock. Major Weed was sent forward with orders to General Blunt to press hard on the enemy's rear and not scatter. Continued pursuit without intermission or halt to West Point, where we arrived after dark. After a short halt the march was resumed and kept up all night, through a steady and cold rain which had not ceased at daylight (25th), when the advance struck the rebels at the crossing of the Marais des Cygnes. Here was fought the first of a series of engagements which resulted in the complete overthrow of the rebels, the utter rout and demoralization of the Army of Missouri under Price in person, the capture of Major-General Marmaduke, Brigadier-General Cabell, 8 colonels, large number of inferior officers, 8 pieces of artillery, and colors and small-arms in large quantities, and rendered the 25th of October, 1864, and the battles of Marais des Cygnes, Osage, and Charlot proudly historic in the annals of the great civil war of the rebellion. My personal report of this glorious day's operations consists chiefly of hard riding to the rear in bringing up troops. McNeil's brigade was brought up in a gallop and held our advanced position in front of the enemy that night. In carrying an order to Major-General Blunt I passed the house where the prisoners were assembled in charge of Lieutenant-Colonel Sears, provost-marshal-general Army of the Border, and found Captain Yates and Major Suess, of General Pleasonton's staff, quarreling over the prisoners and claiming them from the custody of Colonel Sears as General Pleasonton's prisoners.

Being in the execution of a specific duty I did not feel at liberty to detain [remain] and interfere, but informed Captain Yates and Major Suess that Major-General Curtis was the senior officer present and his orders must be obeyed, and rode on. The prisoners were afterward taken from Fort Scott, in General Curtis' department, and contrary to his orders, by General Pleasonton's officers, to Saint Louis via Warrensburg, after our own troops had left Fort Scott in further pursuit of the enemy, and our provost-marshal was powerless to execute his order to convey the prisoners, under guard detailed from General Pleasonton's command, to Fort Leavenworth. The temporary abandonment of the pursuit of the enemy, and the march to Fort Scott on the evening of the 25th, became a necessity for our command after General Pleasonton had marched his command, constituting the largest portion of the combined forces, away from the line of pursuit and to that post without consultation with his senior and commanding officer, Major-General Curtis, and contrary to the views of General Curtis previously and earnestly expressed. We reached Fort Scott at 8 o'clock, and General Orders, No. 57, Department of Kansas, was issued rescinding General Orders, No. 54, and relieving the State from martial law. Next morning the command was ordered forward from Fort Scott, after the general and staff had gone some distance out of town, by the following order:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE BORDER,
In the Field, October 26, 1864.

Generals BLUNT and PLEASONTON,
Commanding Officers:

I have reliable information that the enemy have all crossed at Adamson's Ford and gone eastward. I therefore direct all forces to move by the shortest route to that point and follow me in pursuit.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

We reached Shanghai, twenty-four miles from Fort Scott, and camped. 27th, left Shanghai at sunrise and marched to Lupis Point. Hon. James H. Lane and Col. S. J. Crawford were relieved from further duty as volunteer aides-de camp, and returned to Fort Scott. At Coon Creek, where we halted for supper, letters were received from General Pleasonton entirely satisfactory. McNeil's brigade joined us in column. Sanborn and Benteen ordered to join us, and General Pleasonton sends four pieces of artillery. At 9 o'clock the column moved forward, and at 10 the general and staff were on the way for a night march. We crossed Spring River and reached Carthage, Mo., before daylight on the 28th, and halted the command for rest and feed three hours, when the column was again in motion. Riding forward I reached the front at 11.30, at Diamond Grove, where the enemy with their train was in plain sight. General Blunt came up immediately and ordered an advance. We had overtaken Major McKenny, bearer of a flag of truce, but the flag was ordered back, and Major McKenny, taking his escort, advanced against the enemy as skirmishers. Colonel Ford's brigade, Major Ketner, of the Sixteenth, in the advance, went forward, and messages were sent to the rear by General Blunt to hurry forward the whole command. The enemy retreated rapidly out of sight, but at Newtonia the advance, under Colonel Ford, came upon them again. General Blunt came up immediately, about 3 o'clock, and ordered a charge, which was made by the Second Colorado and Sixteenth Kansas, the general leading in person. McLain's battery opened on the enemy at the same time, supported by the Fifteenth Kansas, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt. This developed their whole line, which now threatened to turn both our right and left flanks. Orders were sent back to McNeil, who was supposed to be in our immediate rear, and to Moonlight, who had not yet come up, but both these commands had been halted to feed, and did not reach the ground in time to take part in the action. With the Second Colorado, Fifteenth and Sixteenth Kansas, altogether less than 1,000 men, we fought the whole of Shelby's division, and had succeeded in driving them in the center of their line, when General Sanborn unexpectedly arrived, and, rapidly forming on the left, charged the enemy's right, and our victory was complete. Night coming on pursuit was impossible, and the command returned to Newtonia, where the remainder of our column had already arrived and gone into camp. Next morning (29th) we were all preparing for the "forward," when dispatches came from General Rosecrans, recalling his troops. This leaving us only Blunt's division of about 1,200 effective men, compelled us to give up the chase after the order of march had been published and a column in motion.

There is no reasonable doubt that with the troops thus taken from us we could have destroyed Price's panic-stricken, half-starved horde this day, and thus ended a brief but brilliant and arduous campaign most gloriously. The Army of the Border tread its first step backward and marched to Neosho, twelve miles. The following morning dispatches were received from General Halleck, that Lieutenant-General Grant directs the pursuit of Price to be continued to the Arkansas River or until met by Steele's or Reynolds' commands. Accordingly dispatches were immediately sent to Generals McNeil and Sanborn and to Colonels Philips and Benteen, directing them to proceed with their several commands to Cassville and report to the major-general commanding there. Lieut. (now Capt.) J. B. Pond, with forty men of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, was charged with the delivery of these several orders and was ordered then to proceed to Fort Scott and forward trains

and re-enforcements. An inspection of the command was ordered to ascertain the condition in regard to ammunition and supplies, and a lengthy dispatch was sent to Major-General Halleck, chief of staff, detailing present position, movements, and embarrassments. Two o'clock the command returned to Newtonia, where ammunition and supplies were distributed. Next day (31st) the general and staff left Newtonia taking the Cassville road; halted at 1 o'clock at Gadfly. Finding the enemy had taken the Keetsville road, dispatches were sent back to Blunt to go to Keetsville, and one to Benteen at Cassville to take the same road. Of General Rosecrans' troops ordered to join us, only Benteen's command reported. Tuesday, 1st of November, marched ten miles through rain and snow and halted at Cross Timbers, where troops built fires and where we remained next day (2d) for the command to close up, movements being greatly retarded by the rain and the almost impassable condition of the roads. The 3d continued the march and during the night received dispatches from Colonel Harrison that the enemy were shelling Fayetteville. We hastened forward and on the 4th reached Fayetteville about 12 o'clock, where we found the enemy had retreated on our approach. Having secured the safety of this post we moved forward, Colonel Harrison with about 300 of the First Arkansas Cavalry joining the column and forming the advance. The evening of the 5th we camped on the old battle-ground of Prairie Grove and next morning marched at daylight and continued without halt until 4 p. m., when we camped for the night (Camp Hunt); 7th, march resumed at 3 a. m., and continued until 12 midnight. Next day at 12 m. we reached the Arkansas River about twenty-five miles above Fort Smith, having followed a trail sharply defined and strewn with arms, half-burned wagons, dead mules, abandoned horses, and all the debris of a routed and demoralized army, including Price's private carriage, and one piece of artillery, abandoned but not destroyed.

Having cut a new road for more than a mile through an impenetrable canebrake, and having found a new ford here, [Price] had crossed about 10,000 troops broken, dispirited, and starving, two pieces of artillery and forty wagons, all that remained of the proud Army of Missouri, which a month ago, 20,000 strong, had marched triumphantly through the heart of Missouri, stealing, burning, and conscripting, without serious opposition until met by Blunt at Lexington. A portion of our advance actually crossed the river, but without coming upon the rear guard of the enemy, who had barely escaped us, and who were not yet beyond the sound of our parting salute, which we gave them from McLain's battery and the "little howitzers" of Major Hunt (escort detachment). We watered our horses in the Arkansas River and having successfully accomplished its mission the Army of the Border was formally disbanded. General Blunt, with Moonlight's brigade, was directed to return via Fort Smith, Colonel Benteen by the shortest route and at his own discretion to his proper corps command in the Department of the Tennessee. Colonel Jennison, returning, was directed to take the route of the army through Arkansas and Missouri, to meet supplies en route, and Colonel Ford, with his regiment, was selected to accompany the major-general commanding, via Fort Gibson and Fort Scott, to department headquarters, Fort Leavenworth, where we arrived on the 18th, having in thirty-eight days and without change of clothing marched near 800 miles, and with the co-operation of comrades in Missouri fought seven pitched battles, inflicting an acknowledged loss on the enemy of over 10,000 killed, wounded, and missing, and saved the

posts of Fort Leavenworth, Fort Scott, Fayetteville, Fort Gibson, and Fort Smith, and the State of Kansas from the devastation and destruction which would too surely have followed an invasion by Price's army.

I cannot close this report without recalling an incident of the campaign. The congratulatory order of the major-general commanding announcing the termination of the pursuit and the return of the troops was written in the general's tent during a most terrific thunder-storm and a deluging rain, which almost instantly extinguished the fires while it awakened the enthusiasm of the foot-sore, wearied but gallant soldiers, who met the storm of the elements as they had met the bullets of the enemy with shouts and cheers. And thus on the 8th of November, as the sun went down on the peaceful triumph of loyal millions at home over the traitors of the North, from the dark waters of the distant Arkansas went up the victorious greeting of the Army of the Border, as closed the pursuit of Price in 1864.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. CHARLOT,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Commanding Department of Kansas.

No. 66.

Reports of Maj. Samuel S. Curtis, Second Colorado Cavalry, Aide-de-Camp.

STEAMER BENTON, *October 16, 1864.*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report for the information of the general commanding the following circumstances connected with the recent trip of the steamer Benton to Glasgow:

Pursuant to instructions from General Curtis, on the morning of the 7th instant I proceeded to Leavenworth City from Fort Leavenworth, and took possession of the steamer Benton for Government service, taking charge of her myself. She was already loaded with three companies of the Forty-third Missouri Infantry, under command of Major Davis, and the West Wind had three more companies of the same regiment, all being under the command of Col. Chester Harding, jr. Both boats started almost immediately for Jefferson City. We were very much delayed by the low stage of water in the river and hard winds and did not reach Brunswick until about 10 a. m. of the 11th instant. We found the town occupied by Captain Kennedy, of Price's army, with about eighty men, most of whom he had raised in the place the preceding day. A guerrilla named Ryder had been there the previous day with a force of about 100 men, but had left the same evening. We landed and drove the enemy from the town, they fleeing at the first fire. Colonel Harding immediately seized all the serviceable horses to be found, and mounted a detachment of about eighty men and sent them in pursuit. They returned during the night and reported having come up with the enemy, but they again fled without showing fight. We left Brunswick the next day, saw a few of the enemy at Cambridge, but did not stop, and arrived at Glasgow on the 13th. We found Captain Mayer [Mayo] of, I believe, the Ninth Missouri State Militia [Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry], in command of the post, with about 300 cavalry and as many more armed citizens. They had already com-

menced throwing up intrenchments, intending to hold the place as long as possible. We here learned that General Price was at Boonville, twenty miles below, with a force variously estimated at from 15,000 to 30,000 men, probably about 20,000, and twenty pieces of artillery. Detachments of his command were scouting the country in every direction, on both sides of the river, conscripting every man fit for military duty. He had possession of the steam ferryboat at Boonville, which was in serviceable condition.

In view of these circumstances Colonel Harding concluded to remain at Glasgow, and as I believed that the steamer Benton would be wanted in the vicinity of Leavenworth, and in view of the fact that Price had possession of the ferry-boat and could at any time throw a sufficient force on the north side of the river to capture Glasgow, I concluded to return with the boat, and as I did not consider the garrison very strong to do so without a guard. I felt safe in doing this as I was confident the boat could not be taken with small-arms and I could not hear of any enemy with artillery to the west of us. We had about twenty guns on board, and barricaded the pilot-house as well as we could, and built very serviceable breast-works of cord-wood around the boiler and main decks. We left Glasgow on the morning of the 14th and saw nothing of the enemy until we reached Brunswick, which was again occupied by the enemy, but they did not fire on us, as I presume they supposed there were troops on board. We were fired on that evening however from Miami City, and again after dark from Plains City. The night being cloudy we anchored in the middle of the stream, and started again about daylight. We had gone but a few rods when we were fired at from the bank, one shot slightly wounding the mate of the boat in the leg. We returned the fire briskly. At Waverly we saw about fifty of the enemy, but as the channel here is a long way from the town they did not fire on us, but we saw them start up the river, and, as we expected, they attacked us about five miles from Waverly at a point where the channel runs very close to the south side of the river. In endeavoring to keep as far as possible from the shore we grounded and for about half an hour a brisk fire was kept up on both sides. Just before reaching Lexington on the same day a woman informed us that there were about 200 bushwhackers at that place. As we approached it we could see them scattered through the town in every direction, and an officer appeared on the hill and shouted to us to stop and come to shore or we would be fired into. We pushed ahead and firing commenced on both sides, but at such long range as not to be very effective. As we came to the bend in the river, the wind blowing directly downstream took us on the starboard and carried us to the shore. We were still under fire, but the men gallantly shoved her bow out, and after two or three efforts we got started. We must have been aground for ten minutes, during which time we were very liable to capture, but fortunately escaped; as we left we could see a large body of them move up the river, and about six miles above we received a very heavy fire from the brush on the bank, only about fifty feet distance. The shot fell thick and fast and some of them came with great force, going clear through the chimneys. Their aim seemed to be mostly at the pilot-house, which received about seventy-five shots, none of which, however, did any material damage.

Besides the above-named places we were fired into repeatedly by small parties. The boat was struck by about 600 shots, and I presume 3,000 or 4,000 more were fired at her. We had no further trouble and

arrived at Kansas City about 4 o'clock this afternoon, where I learned that General Curtis was at Wyandotte City, to which place I immediately proceeded and reported the substance of this communication.

Though the bringing up of the boat was regarded by all as hazardous, yet the capture of Glasgow the next day by Price's forces has proven that it was much better than remaining there.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. S. CURTIS,
Major Second Colorado Cavalry, Aide-de-Camp.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Kansas.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, ———, —.

MAJOR: In compliance with the general field order issued at Camp Arkansas, November 8, 1864, I submit for the information of the general commanding the following report of my actions in connection with the recent campaign:

On the 7th of October I proceeded to Glasgow, Mo., in charge of the steamer Benton conveying a part of Colonel Harding's command, from whence I returned to headquarters on the 16th. The events connected with that expedition have been already made known to you by my report of the [16th] of October. On the morning of the 17th of October I left Wyandotte with the steamer Benton for the purpose of transporting supplies from Fort Leavenworth to the army in the vicinity of Kansas City. We arrived at Fort Leavenworth about 2 p. m., loaded that afternoon, and started the next morning at daylight for Kansas City, where we arrived about noon of the same day, finding headquarters at Camp Charlot near Kansas City. By order of the general I returned to Fort Leavenworth on the 18th, with instructions to send forward all troops and militia that could be gathered together. I found that there was but a small garrison at the post of Fort Leavenworth, Colonel McFarland's and Captain Zesch's battery of Kansas State Militia in Leavenworth City, and Colonel Frank Tracy's and another regiment of militia, both under command of Brig. Gen. Byron Sherry, Kansas State Militia, at Atchison. The battery at Leavenworth City was immediately ordered to the front, and left at daylight the next morning on the steam-boat Benton. Endeavors were made also by myself and the other members of the staff at Fort Leavenworth, Colonel Stark, Major Heath, Major Weed, and Captain Willans, to get the two regiments of militia at Atchison forward, but owing to the low stage of water in the river and the scarcity of land transportation they did not reach Fort Leavenworth until about noon of the 21st of October. News of the advance of Price from Lexington having been received, we immediately commenced preparations to send them forward, one regiment going by boat and the other in wagons. The same night it was deemed advisable, and we ordered Colonel McFarland's regiment, Kansas State Militia, also to the front. Every facility was afforded by Captain Hodges, depot quartermaster, and Captain Carpenter, post quartermaster, and two regiments left in wagons on the morning of the 22d, the other regiment having left on steamer Benton on the evening of the 21st. I went in person with the regiment on the boat, and Major Weed accompanied the

two regiments which went by land. Both bodies of troops arrived at Kansas City about noon of the 22d. I ordered the troops on the boat to the shore with instructions to there await orders, and instructed the captain of the boat to report to Captain Seelye, assistant quartermaster, at Kansas City, and I then proceeded in search of headquarters, and overtook the general and staff in the saddle just entering the town of Westport.

Arriving in Westport reports were received that the enemy were driving Colonel Jennison at Byram's Ford, and I was sent back to hurry up re-enforcements that had been ordered from General Blunt, who was farther to the left. I met them close at hand, but the enemy having already forced the passage of the ford by dint of overwhelming numbers, it gradually became evident that the position could not be held and the troops were ordered to fall back on Kansas City for the night. As we went back I was ordered to see to placing troops in camp in the outskirts of the town on the Westport road. I placed one section of the Colorado battery in the road on a commanding elevation, with Colonel Tracy's regiment infantry, Kansas State Militia, to support it, and one regiment cavalry, Kansas State Militia, on the right of it, and two on the left, which connected with General Blunt's command on the east and southeast of the city. They thus bivouacked for the night in line of battle and expectation of an attack. I was engaged until 10 or 11 p. m. in this duty, after which I repaired to headquarters at the Gillis house, where I remained for the night. The next morning I started with the general for Westport, being preceded by most or all of General Blunt's division. When we arrived at Westport artillery firing had already commenced to the southeast of town, and from the top of the hotel the enemy could be seen on the other side of the Big Blue, and moving rapidly in a southwesterly direction. About 10 o'clock I was ordered to take a squadron of the Second Colorado, under command of Captain Kingsbury, and proceed via Independence to General Pleasonton's command and inform him of the position and operations of General Curtis. I went within one mile and a half of Independence, where, finding I was far in rear of General Pleasonton's command, I turned south, and striking the Independence and Hickman Mills road I followed it until I came up with General McNeil's brigade, which I found drawn up in line of battle on a ridge, with a number of dismounted men in the valley in front of them. On the opposite ridge to the south about three-fourths of a mile distant the enemy were deployed and still deploying. Some artillery firing was progressing when I came up, which continued for several minutes thereafter, but as the enemy continued to deploy troops and was endeavoring to flank us on both sides, General McNeil ordered the command to fall back about half a mile. I could hear nothing from General McNeil of General Pleasonton's whereabouts, and concluded that he must have passed between me and the Big Blue. As I had ridden hard for about fifteen miles, and the squadron with me showed some signs of fatigue, I rested there for about two hours and then struck almost due west on a by-road which brought me to Big Blue at the Westport ford, where there were signs of very severe fighting that day. Broken wagons, cannon-balls, shells, and dead bodies were scattered along the road for two miles. The dead seemed nearly all to be of the Kansas militia and the rebels. I saw but one white man, who appeared to have been a Federal soldier, and two negroes. As we rode over the field I had the men look carefully to see if any of the bodies were mutilated, and they found none that were.

I came to General Sanborn's camp shortly after dark and there first learned the particulars of the battle of the day, and also that General Pleasonton had effected a junction with General Curtis and that both were probably encamped several miles to the west. I then pushed ahead with my squadron and reached headquarters at Little Santa Fé about 10 p. m., having traveled about forty miles during the day. The Second Colorado Cavalry being in camp near headquarters, I ordered Captain Kingsbury with his squadron to join his regiment. The next day (October 24) I accompanied the general all day. About dark General Pleasonton took the advance for a night march. During the night I remained near General Curtis, and in the morning the same, until General Pleasonton sent back word that he had captured one gun, when I pushed forward. I overtook General Pleasonton and rode with him for some distance. When about three miles from the Marais des Cygnes we commenced to hear firing at the front, and General Pleasonton sent orders back for McNeil and Sanborn to hurry forward with all practicable dispatch, while we pushed forward at a trot and canter. When we first heard the firing Benteen's brigade was on a parallel road to the one we were on and to our right. He immediately put his command on the gallop and we fell to the rear of his column, as the roads soon came together. Benteen's brigade broke into regimental columns as they approached the battle-field, and as they came up on the left of Philips' brigade went forward into line and right on into the charge. The enemy were cannonading Philips' brigade when we came in sight, but the musketry firing had mostly ceased. General Pleasonton requested me to take his escort company and support a section of a battery which just then came up. General Pleasonton went forward, and I directed the lieutenant to post his guns on a small elevation and shell the enemy's right where their artillery was posted. But two shots were fired when I heard the yells raised by Benteen's brigade and saw the enemy's line breaking. I immediately ordered the guns forward to a better position, and had just got them in position when General Sanborn rode up and directed the lieutenant to fire at some troops on the south side of Mine Creek, and on our extreme left. I felt doubtful as to whether they were rebels or our own troops, but a second thought made me conclude they were rebels. Four shots were fired at them when I saw by their falling back to our lines that they must be our own men. I rode forward to the guns to stop their firing, when Generals Sanborn and Pleasonton both rode up and ordered them to cease. At this time the enemy's cannonading on our right had not yet ceased. The enemy by this time being in full retreat, with the exception of their extreme left, which could scarcely be reached with artillery from where we were without danger to our own command, and directly in front of us, our troops were immediately on the heels of the retreating rebels. I told the lieutenant in charge of the guns to follow as fast as he could, while I, with the escort company, pushed forward to rejoin General Pleasonton. A short distance before reaching the creek I found Major Weed, who told me of the capture of General Marmaduke. I pushed forward and told General Pleasonton, and just as I did so General Cabell was brought up as prisoner. At this time we could see a second rebel line forming on the top of the hill ahead of us, and our troops being scattered in pursuit General Pleasonton sent orders for them to halt and reform. I assisted in reforming the line and sending prisoners to the rear until General Pleasonton again ordered an advance, when I advanced with him. I waited on the hill

until General Curtis came up and rode with him to the banks of the next stream, when I rode up to the summit of the hill to the right of the road to obtain, if possible, a view of the charge being made by McNeil's brigade, which had taken the advance through the timber on Little Osage. Here, waiting for the general to come up, I fell asleep and missed the rest of the fighting of the day, as I did not overtake the general and staff until about 3 p. m. About 4 p. m. I was ordered to hurry forward and find what a movement of troops to the right meant. I overtook General Pleasonton on the prairie at the point where the movement to the right had commenced, and he informed me that he had ordered McNeil to follow the enemy, and supposed General Blunt's division would also follow, and that he, with the balance of his command, were going to Fort Scott, which he said he understood to be but two miles and a half distant, for food and forage. I saw Lieutenant Ehle, of the Third Wisconsin, who had come from Fort Scott, and said it was only about two miles and a half. About this time General Curtis came up and expostulated with General Pleasonton on this course, the enemy being deployed in full view. General Pleasonton, however, insisted that his command were used up by their battles and large marches and went to Fort Scott. I was ordered to hasten to Fort Scott and get provisions and forage started out for Generals Blunt's and McNeil's commands as soon as possible. I started immediately and found Fort Scott to be about seven miles distant, instead of two and a half. I reached Fort Scott about an hour after dark, and found that Major McKenny was there with the same object which I had in view. Nearly all the public property had been removed, but by pressing teams we succeeded in getting about twelve wagon-loads of subsistence and forage started about 12 o'clock at night. They, however, met General Blunt and his command coming into the town, and were by him ordered to return, which they did. In consequence of the return of this train General McNeil's command was left without subsistence that night, and they did not get any until the morning of the 27th, when I found this same train with the command and almost untouched.

I do not conceive it to be necessary that I should recount the daily incidents of the march to the Arkansas River and return to Fort Scott. Though it is replete with interesting items of hardship and endurance, there are no battles to record, save that at Newtonia, in which it was not my fortune to participate. At the Arkansas River I was one of those who crossed in pursuit of the enemy. This campaign will ever be remembered by me, not only for its many eventful and important incidents, but also for those minor incidents which show the noble material of which men are made, the existence of which is seldom fully shown in the ordinary routine of life.

For the uniform kindness and courtesy extended to me by the general commanding, the associate staff officers, and the division, brigade, and regimental commanders, I desire to return my sincere thanks.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. S. CURTIS,
Major Second Colorado Cavalry, Aide-de-Camp.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Kansas.

No. 67.

Report of Maj. Thomas I. McKenny, U. S. Army, Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, December 1, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders from the major-general commanding I have the honor to report the part taken by myself in the battles and pursuit of Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, commanding the rebel force.

I left Fort Leavenworth with Major-General Curtis as an additional aide-de-camp on the 11th day of October, 1864, it being generally understood from numerous reliable sources that the rebel general designed devastating Kansas. Camped on the evening of the 11th, having made ten miles. October 12, proceeded to Olathe, twenty-five miles. At this point the State militia had been ordered to rendezvous. October 13, General Curtis becoming convinced that this was not a proper place for the accumulation of a large force, on account of scarcity of water, fuel, and forage, sent me with orders to General Deitzler, commanding the militia, directing him to countermand his order making Olathe his headquarters, and direct all the militia immediately south of the Kansas or Kaw River to go to Shawneetown; and those still north of that river to Kansas City, and those already arrived at Olathe to Hickman Mills, Mo., stating at the same time Blunt, Jennison, and Moonlight, with their forces, had been ordered there. Proceeded this day to Wyandotte through Kansas City, a route we were obliged to travel on account of the bridge being down across the Kaw, twenty-eight miles. October 14, lay this day in camp. By order of the general commanding, made an inspection of the Twelfth Kansas Militia, Colonel Treat, camped in the Kaw Bottom. Signed receipts for immediate wants of rations, horseshoes, &c. Found them well armed and supplied with ammunition, and with a few exceptions eager for the expected fight. Gave Lieutenant Fitch, acting assistant quartermaster, the order of the general commanding, directing him to procure 500 tents or more for the militia, all of which were to be pitched to make a demonstration of a great force. October 15, accompanied General Curtis in a reconnaissance to Independence, and from that place to Hickman Mills, and from there to camp near Wyandotte, where we arrived 2 a. m., having traveled fifty miles. October 16, was sent to select camp-ground in Missouri. Selected one near Kansas City, which the general commanding named Camp Charlot, in honor of his adjutant-general, headquarters being removed to that point same day. October 18, was sent with orders to intercept Colonel Blair, commanding militia, then en route to Independence, with orders directing him to camp on the Big Blue or immediate vicinity. Removed headquarters to Independence, distance twelve miles. October 19, lay in camp at Independence. October 20, learned of the battle near Lexington, and received information from General Blunt that he had fallen back on the Little Blue, and wished for re-enforcements. General Curtis dispatched me with orders to General Blunt to fall back to the Big Blue, but at the same time to leave a strong guard at the Little Blue bridge, with directions to burn the same when the proper time had arrived, this in view of the fact that he had strongly fortified at the Big Blue, and did not wish his best forces to be fatigued and worn down, but wished them to reserve their strength until attacked at the Big Blue. Accordingly General Blunt left Colonel Moonlight with the requisite force and fell back on Independence. October 21, was dispatched early this morning to Colonel Blair with directions for him

to send all his light artillery, including Dodge's battery, then momentarily expected, to the front, as he had determined to feel the enemy on the Little Blue; I was also directed to say that the first Kansas battery to arrive would report to him. Returning I found the battle of the Little Blue in progress, and our forces slowly falling back to the Big Blue, but contesting every inch of the ground. That night at 10 o'clock was assigned the duty of placing the pickets, and planted ours within two miles and a half of Independence, and within sight of the enemy, as seen on the following morning. Fears being entertained that the enemy might flank our position, the general commanding directed his chief engineer, with a heavy pioneer force extemporized for the occasion, to fortify Kansas City, which duty was most faithfully performed. October 22. On this day was fought the battle of the Big Blue. The general commanding being fearful that a sufficient force had not been stationed at Byram's Ford, directed me to order Major-General Deitzler to send the greater part of his force to Colonel Jennison, holding the ford. General Deitzler stated that he could not see the necessity, as there was already the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Kansas, besides 150 infantry, also some odd troops, with four guns, at that point, but that he would send more. I designated an independent company from Independence, numbering about 100, which I had that day armed on my own responsibility with arms taken from wagons going to Kansas City, as a proper force to be sent. It was understood these should constitute part of the force sent. I afterward learned from Colonel Jennison that no re-enforcements came and the important ford was abandoned, not, however, without being stubbornly contested. The general commanding being desirous of information from the front, particularly Hickman Mills, dispatched me to ascertain what could be learned. Taking the wrong road I came near Byram's Ford, and there found Colonel Jennison slowly falling back and observed the enemy in his front and a large body of men on his right flank, supposed to be the enemy. Retraced my steps and got on the Hickman Mills road. Traveled several miles when I met this body of men, which proved to be Colonel Johnson's militia in rapid retreat. I stopped them and caused them to go to the rear slowly. At the same time I sent Colonel Jennison notice. I now proceeded on my road, but had not gone far when I became satisfied that I would soon be cut off, as the enemy were already rapidly advancing, having captured many of the militia near Hickman Mills, besides one gun. I now rode rapidly to the rear. Overtaking the militia I placed them in line of battle in the edge of the timber, with directions to hold their ground and retard the enemy's progress, and retreat only when absolutely necessary. I will here state that General Fishback was present and manifested the greatest willingness to meet the enemy. I afterward learned that this regiment did good service. Night now closing in found us in rather a doubtful position. Our forces being pressed fell back toward Kansas City, where most of them arrived about 10 o'clock. The Second Colorado, with the exception of two companies, with the Eleventh, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth Kansas, remained on the field confronting the enemy. I was sent about 9 o'clock at night to assist in placing the troops in the trenches as they arrived. I was much delighted when I found General Blunt already there filing troops right and left and placing batteries in commanding positions, and perfectly cool and collected as if nothing unusual was going on. I placed Colonel Hubble's militia in the northwest part of the city, another militia regiment in the north-northeast part of the city to support Dodge's battery, and two companies of the Second Colorado at

the fort. During the night information was received by the general commanding that the troops in front of the enemy were without provisions and ammunition. The commissary at Wyandotte was telegraphed for supplies, there being none in Kansas City, but failed to respond. By direction of the general commanding, I ordered Captain Simpson to repair to Wyandotte and take possession of the subsistence department, also steamer Tom Morgan, at the levee, and furnish with all possible speed the required supplies. I at the same time went in search of the ordnance train, finding it in the bottom near the pontoon bridge, and got the required ammunition. I also unloaded extra teams, and brought them to Kansas City. About this time the Morgan arrived, and by 3 a. m. we had the required subsistence and ammunition loaded and on the way. It is due to General Blunt to say that he was indefatigable in superintending this business, refusing to sleep, but was constantly on the move, making arrangements for the expected battle on the morrow. October 23, at 5 o'clock this morning I was ordered by the general commanding to repair to the trenches and assist in placing the remaining militia and the remaining guns in position, most of the militia being ordered to the front. At 9 a. m. was ordered to the front to notify General Blunt that the enemy were coming in on his right flank; after performing this duty I volunteered my services to General Blunt, and by his orders dismounted two regiments of militia, sending every sixth man to the rear with the horses. This militia, the names of the regiments I now forget, were formed to support Dodge's and McLain's batteries. Another fractional regiment, commanded by Colonel Montgomery, and a number of colored soldiers, which I placed under command of Colonel Montgomery, I formed on the left of McLain's battery, and in a dense wood far in the advance, and it is with pleasure I state they behaved gallantly under a hot fire. The enemy being pressed on all sides gradually fell back. Generals Curtis and Blunt were in the front ranks directing the artillery and urging the men forward. It was about this time General Pleasonton opened out on the enemy's right flank, when ensued a rapid flight and pursuit, which continued for many miles. This battle is known as the battle of Westport. The enemy retreated by the road to Hickman Mills and Little Santa Fé; our forces pursued through the latter place. Colonel Jennison being in the advance, I fell in with his command. About 5 o'clock we again came up with the enemy in force. Enemy advanced on us, opening out with artillery and small-arms, to which we responded with small-arms. Colonel Jennison slowly retired to an adjacent hill, and formed a new line. The enemy advanced in large force opening as before, but with artillery alone. At this juncture it was deemed prudent with our small force to retire, which we did, falling back some five miles near Little Santa Fé, where the balance of our forces had encamped for the night, with the exception of Moonlight's command, that took the right-hand road at Little Santa Fé, which goes to Mound City. October 24, went to General Curtis' headquarters, where I met and was introduced to General Pleasonton and General Sanborn. Was ordered to go in the advance with General Blunt with special instructions. The command was halted by order of the major-general commanding about night-fall to cook some beef at a small place called West Point. At 8 p. m. an order came from the major-general commanding directing General Blunt to remain in present position, that General Pleasonton would take the advance. Proceeded until 3 o'clock at night, it being exceedingly dark and raining. When the column halted I was ordered forward to ascertain the cause. Found General McNeil,

who said he had his instructions from General Sanborn in the advance, to halt and build fires to dry. At this time an order came from the front to extinguish fires. I reported these facts, when I was again ordered to the front to ascertain from General Sanborn the cause of the halt. Found General Sanborn in bed some two miles in advance, and about three miles from Trading Post. He told me he had ascertained to his satisfaction that the enemy was in full force, perhaps 10,000 strong, immediately on the high hills in his front, and that he thought it unsafe to proceed farther. These facts being communicated we bivouacked for the night. October 25, General Pleasonton in the advance skirmished with the enemy across the Marais des Cygnes. I received permission to go to the front, and was riding by the side of General Pleasonton, when cannonading was heard in the front not far distant. We rode rapidly forward, the battle progressing. I volunteered my services when I was ordered to the rear to bring up a battery, and to hurry up McNeil. The battery I brought up, and as I saw another aide after McNeil I preceded the battery to the front, but did not arrive there until the main part of the battle was over and the enemy in retreat. I joined in the pursuit. It was during the pursuit I was stopped by Colonel Blair, who wished to turn General Marmaduke, a prisoner of war, over to my charge. I declined, being under orders. Toward noon General McNeil coming up took the advance, and I went with him in the charge across the Little Osage. General Pleasonton coming up directed me to order Colonel Catherwood's brigade to charge the enemy, who had again formed in our front. I gave the order; the charge was made, but the enemy fell back as our forces advanced. The rebels continued their retreat across the vast prairie without our forces with their jaded horses being able to bring them to bay until about one hour by sun, when they formed in great force near the Marmiton and about seven miles from Fort Scott. General McNeil's brigade promptly formed to resist them, the rebels outflanking him three-fourths of a mile either way. It was at this time, the rebels advancing, that General Pleasonton sent me forward to order McNeil to advance his right wing. McNeil replied, "I obey the order with pleasure; it is the most joyful news I have heard this day." Colonel Cole now opened out on their right and center with two Rodman guns, which did great execution and broke their column, our forces at the same time pressing their left, when they gave way.' At this time our guns were pointed to their left, the extreme of which, as well as our right, was in low ground and could not be seen by the artillerists. Our shot falling immediately in front of our ranks came near creating confusion. At the request of General McNeil I rode rapidly to the rear and communicated the facts, when the firing ceased. Sun was now about one-half hour high. General Pleasonton, not knowing where he was, remarked that he thought he should order the troops to fall back to the last stream crossed (Little Osage), to the rear seven or eight miles, where wood and water could be had, as his troops were much fatigued and needed rest. I urged that he press forward, as I understood it was but a few miles to the Marmiton, and I thought we could drive the enemy. While we were talking a courier came from McNeil asking for re-enforcements, as the enemy was flanking him on both sides, which was plainly to be seen, as he was only distant about one mile and a half. Pleasonton answered by saying, "Tell General McNeil to hold his ground until re-enforced by fresh troops." Lieutenant Ehle, of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, now arrived from Fort Scott, stating that it was but two miles and a half to that place. Pleasonton

now gave the order to all his troops that had come up to file right for Fort Scott. A conversation occurred between Pleasonton and myself in regard to General Blunt's forces coming up to relieve or assist McNeil. The advance had got about one mile on the road to Fort Scott, when I, too, started for that place. I had not gone in that direction more than 800 yards when I came across a lake or lagoon with plenty of water. I immediately addressed a note to General Pleasonton, notifying him of the fact, and at the same time stating it would be a proper place for Blunt's command to camp, and provisions could be sent out to him. I arrived in advance of others in Fort Scott after a tedious ride of six or seven miles, instead of two and a half. General Curtis arriving about 8.30 o'clock, I made known the subject of conversation with Pleasonton, when by his direction, assisted by Major Curtis, a number of citizen teams were obtained, and by 11 o'clock had them loaded with 6,500 rations and started for Blunt's command, but which I understood they did not receive till the next day, as that command arrived at Fort Scott during the night. October 26, continued the pursuit, General Blunt being in the advance. General Pleasonton, not being well, declined going farther, and returned to Saint Louis, taking with him prisoners, ordnance, &c., captured from the enemy by troops under General Curtis' command. Struck Price's trail at or near Shanghai, where we camped for the night. Distance traveled, twenty-five miles. October 27, General Blunt again in the advance. Traveled all day and until 3 o'clock at night, when we encamped at Carthage; distance traveled, forty miles. October 28, was dispatched early this morning with flag of truce, the object being to exchange prisoners, as we had learned that our prisoners were enduring great hardships; also to induce, if possible, their surrender; this as an act of humanity, considering their straitened circumstances, many having fallen into our hands literally starved. I had advanced some ten miles when I came in sight of the enemy. This information was sent to the rear by the advanced guard, which brought a courier from General Blunt ordering the flag down, which was obeyed. I now took my detachment, numbering some thirty, and forming with the advanced guard pursued the enemy to the woods, when I ordered them to dismount as skirmishers, at the same time sending word to the rear that the enemy was close at hand in force. The enemy now rapidly retreated, and our skirmishers pursued through the woods for three miles, capturing three prisoners. Resting from fatigue, and expecting our forces up momentarily, and they failing, I went to the rear and found it halted about half a mile from the timber. I made known the facts when the army again moved, but not until some two hours had elapsed. Our forces, under Blunt, again came up with the enemy in the evening at Newtonia, and after a brisk fight repulsed them in every quarter. Intelligence was now received from General Rosecrans, ordering all the troops belonging to his command back to their respective districts and commands by the nearest route. This astounding order was given when the enemy, beaten, disheartened, and starving, were on the very point of falling into our hands. Retrograde movements were now made by the different brigades of Rosecrans' command; and General Curtis, left with less than 1,500 effective men, was forced to turn homeward and abandon the pursuit. Marched to Neosho and encamped for the night. During the night information was received from General Halleck ordering General Curtis to assume command of the troops and pursue Price to the Arkansas River. I was awakened in the night and conveyed these orders to the different commanders; also started messengers for Generals Mc-

Neil, Sanborn, and Colonel Benteen, commanding brigades, to concentrate at Cassville for the pursuit. October 30, I made an inspection of the troops, ascertaining the command to have on an average fifteen rounds of ammunition. Moved to Newtonia, ten miles. October 31, moved to Keetsville by the way of Gadfly, Colonel Benteen, with brigade 1,000 strong, arriving there about the same time; distance traveled, thirty miles.

November 1, moved to head of Cross Timbers, distance some ten miles, roads being very bad, and raining constantly. November 2, Major Charlot, assistant adjutant-general, being very sick and unable to attend to the duties of his office, I was ordered to assume its duties temporarily. Snowing, and very cold. November 3, camped near the ground on which General Curtis fought the battle of Sugar Creek, 1862. The general commanding received information about midnight from Colonel Harrison, commanding at Fayetteville, that he was surrounded by some 4,000 troops under command of General Fagan. November 4, commenced moving at daylight, Blunt's division in the advance, and arrived in Fayetteville about 2 o'clock, having traveled eighteen miles. The enemy getting wind of our approach, raised the siege after having thrown some seventy shots in the place without doing any material damage. November 5, General Blunt in the advance, with advance guard of Colonel Harrison's troops. Camped for the night near the battle-ground of Prairie Grove; distance traveled, eighteen miles. November 6, General Blunt in the advance, passed through Cane Hill. Found many rebel wounded, and was ordered by the general commanding to parole them. With the assistance of Major Weed paroled forty-four during the day, having the paroles all to write, and was compelled to leave many behind for want of time. Amongst the number paroled was one major, one captain, and one lieutenant. Nearly all had been taught to believe they would be killed if they fell in our hands. A rebel surgeon left in charge of their wounded abandoned his charge and disgracefully fled, leaving them destitute of medical aid. This day Colonel Benteen had two men killed by bushwhackers, and in the skirmish and chase which ensued a portion of the flag captured by the rebels at Baxter Springs, on which was the name of General Blunt, was recaptured by our men. November 7, started at daylight, Colonel Benteen, commanding Second Division, in the advance, our route lying through a desolated country inhabited by the Cherokees, but few persons being at home, and those women and children, principally of loyal Indians or Pin-Indians, a term by which the loyal Indians are known. Stopped about one hour by sun to let our stock graze in the canebrakes and moved again about 9 o'clock. Traveled until near 2 o'clock in the morning, when we bivouacked for the balance of the night. During the night captured a cannon and carriage complete the rebels had abandoned. November 8, command commenced moving at daylight. Major Charlot's health being restored he assumed the duties of his office. Word was soon received that the enemy's pickets were close in front, which proved false. Arrived at the Arkansas about 12 o'clock, and learned from a released prisoner that the enemy had crossed the evening before. Some of our men crossed and fired at their pickets, but soon returned. Our artillery coming up fired a national salute in the direction of the enemy, who were doubtless camped on the high ground after leaving the bottom. Our tired and completely worn-down forces retracing their steps across the muddy bottom of the Arkansas, encamped for the night. General Curtis issued his congratulatory order on the evening of the 8th ordering the troops to their respective commands by different routes

November 9, proceeded homeward by the way of Fort Gibson, taking with him Second Colorado Regiment and his body guard. Camped first night on the Illinois River; distance traveled, twenty-five miles. November 10, arrived at Fort Gibson, where General Curtis was received with honors due a major-general; distance, twenty miles. Crossed most of our teams over Grand River by 10 o'clock at night. Failed in getting forage as we expected to for stock at this point, everything being exceedingly scarce since the capture of the big train at Cabin Creek, the soldiers living on beef, having had no breadstuff for two weeks. November 11, traveled twenty-two miles, and camped. By order of the general commanding dispatched an express to Captain Insley, Fort Scott, to load six ambulances with hard bread and corn, instructing them to travel sixty miles a day and take the risk of capture. November 12, was placed in the advance to regulate the movements of the command. Traveled twenty miles and camped by directions of the major-general commanding; what little corn was left was ordered to be issued to the body guard, they having neither meat nor bread. November 13, camped at Duck Springs; distance traveled, twenty miles. November 14, was placed in command of the rear this day to keep up stragglers, both men and horses; also to keep wagons properly closed up. Reached and crossed the Neosho River; distance traveled, eighteen miles. November 15, this morning it was announced that two ambulances had arrived with hard bread and corn, when a shout went up from the soldiers as if a great victory had been gained. Together with Major Hunt I was assigned the duty of equally distributing the five and one-half sacks of corn and 600 pounds of bread. This done the order was given to march. Traveled ten miles and met more supplies. It was at this point the general commanding, together with his staff, and a small squad of fresh troops, proceeded forward, and reached Fort Scott about 2 o'clock, where we were received with military honors; distance traveled since the morning of the 15th, eighty-five miles. Left Fort Scott same evening and camped thirteen miles out. November 17, traveled to Paola, a distance of fifty miles. November 18, arrived at Leavenworth City, where we were received by the military with due honors.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

T. I. McKENNY,
Major and Inspector-General, Department of Kansas.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Kansas.

No. 68.

Report of Maj. Robert H. Hunt, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, Chief of Artillery.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, *November 22, 1864.*

GENERAL: Pursuant to special field order, headquarters Army of the Border, Camp Arkansas, November 8, 1864, I have the honor to report dates, distances, and facts as occurred under my observation.

On the 11th of October, in company with yourself and staff, I started from Fort Leavenworth and camped ten miles south. On the 12th we went to Olathe and camped there, distance of twenty-eight miles, at

which place, by your direction, I sent all headquarters transportation, including ambulances and pressed citizens' teams, out to bring in some of the First Kansas State Militia, who had made the extraordinary march of about thirty miles, but some of whom were tired and could not reach camp without assistance. On the 13th we went to Wyandotte, via Shawneetown and Kansas City; distance, twenty-nine miles. On the 15th we went to Independence and Hickman Mills, on an inspection tour, and back to Wyandotte, a distance of forty-eight miles. On the 17th we marched from Wyandotte to Kansas City and bivouacked on the suburbs, a distance of four miles. To this point I had a large amount of ammunition sent from Fort Leavenworth, both for artillery and small-arms, which subsequently proved so necessary, as commanding officers usually do not provide themselves with sufficient ammunition; and were it not for this precaution, directed by yourself, the army would have been entirely out of ammunition the first two days. 19th, went to Independence; distance, twelve miles. 21st, went to Little Blue, distance nine miles, where we met the enemy in force fighting and driving Colonel Moonlight. By your direction I placed McLain's battery in position and opened fire on the enemy, with what result I cannot state. I also placed two mountain howitzers connected with your body guard in position in the open field, but finding it too much exposed to the enemy's sharpshooters I directed an advance of your body guard howitzers and two other howitzers of the Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. They took position in shelter of a friendly house, supported on the right by Colonel Ford; had no support on the left. As I met the Eleventh retreating I saw Major Ross and begged of him to have Colonel Moonlight retrace his steps and support me, which he did. Artillery opened on the enemy with canister and spherical case at short range and drove them back like sheep. Here is where the brave Major Smith sacrificed his life in behalf of his country. Colonel Ford asked when I would retreat. I replied when he would. He remarked, that although we drove the enemy from our front they were flanking us. At this juncture I received an order from the commanding general [to fall back], which was just in the nick of time. We retreated firing, keeping the foe at a respectful distance. Lieutenant Gill, of your body guard, lost 15 horses out of 40 killed and several wounded. Also Captain Johnson, of the Eleventh [Fifteenth] Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, who commanded the other two howitzers, lost several horses in killed and wounded. I lost one in killed, and after I put my saddle on another he was wounded. And let me here say that Lieutenant Gill, Captain Johnson, and their men behaved like heroes, and Colonels Ford's and Moonlight's commands resisted successfully every charge made by the rebels; too much credit cannot be awarded them. Major Ross, of the Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, was with me almost through the entire day, rendering invaluable services by his presence and encouragement. He lost 1 horse in killed and 1 wounded. The artillery and cavalry which were under my observation maintained several positions for a time until, outnumbered by the enemy six to one, were compelled to retreat, but fighting every inch. The last artillery firing that was done was by Lieutenant Gill, and supported by the cavalry portion of the body guard, commanded by the lamented Captain Gove, which was about midway between the Blue and Independence. Here the artillery did good work. Rebels having congregated in shelter of a house, distant about 600 yards, Lieutenant Gill and Sergeant Miller dropped several shells in their midst, sending two into the house and exploding after they passed through the roof. This I learn from prisoners. Many were killed

and wounded. One of Lieutenant Gill's horses was killed, several wounded; had to leave one set of harness the enemy pressed so close. Colonel Walker, of the Sixteenth, maintained a position to our rear and left, keeping the enemy from flanking us. He commenced the retreat, but sufficiently maintained his position until the artillery passed him. I observed that the Sixteenth, under Colonel Walker and Major Ketner, did good work. Many things of importance occurred before and after this, but as they came under the commanding general's own notice I will not mention them. I remained with the rear of the column until they arrived at the Big Blue. In the retreat there was no confusion, the enemy was too badly punished to press us too closely. It was after dark when I reported at headquarters, which was established at the Big Blue a little while ere I arrived; distance from Little Blue to Big Blue fifteen miles. 22d, the enemy forced a passage across Byram's Ford. I accompanied the commanding general to Westport where everything was confusion. The enemy having driven Colonel Jennison's command, commanding general sent me out with body guard to re-enforce; reached a distance of about two miles from town, met militia falling back in confusion, halted them and made them go back. Sent a messenger to Colonel Jennison asking him where I could render him the most service. He informed me that the enemy was flanking him on the right and left and for me to fall back on the Westport road to keep the enemy out of town. I did so. Met Colonel Moonlight passing west to check the enemy from going into Kansas. Soon the Fifteenth, under Colonel Hoyt, also came. We all marched in double-quick until we reached the Kansas prairie west of Westport about four or five miles. Here we deployed in line; met the enemy square in the face. I turned over the command of the body guard to Captain Gove and offered my services to Colonel Moonlight. Enemy opened two pieces of rifled artillery upon us at a distance of about a mile, supported by Fagan's or Shelby's brigade [division]. They drove us steadily from about 3 o'clock until nearly dark, when our skirmish line was re-enforced. I assumed command of it and drove the enemy back some two miles, capturing several prisoners, among them a lieutenant, whom I delivered to the commanding general in Kansas City that night. Colonel Moonlight, Lieutenant-Colonel Plumb, Captain Huntoon, Colonel Jennison, Colonel Hoyt, and other officers and the men deserve special credit for their soldier-like conduct. The militia here, as elsewhere, could not be brought into action. Sergeant Slonaker, as well as my orderly, William Brown, of the Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, deserve mention in assisting me. Slonaker deserves a commission. Our forces camped that night at Westport. I reported at headquarters, Kansas City. October 23, McLain's battery made some excellent shots, one of which struck one of the enemy's guns near the left trunnion, breaking it in two. Another gun was struck and broken across the chassis by a rifled piece manned by the colored battery, but which was sighted by Captain Dodge, commanding Ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Battery. Both captains used their artillery with skill. The rebels left the wrecks of these guns on the field and retreated, we pursuing them in connection with General Pleasonton's forces. Camped for the night at Little Santa Fé, fifteen miles from Westport.

October 24, General Pleasonton suggested taking his troops on the Harrisonville or Pleasant Hill road, as he thought the heaviest column of the enemy to be there. The commanding general insisted on the troops keeping on the shortest line. Marched all day and night; distance, perhaps fifty miles. Before daylight on the morning of the 25th

I directed Captain Kingsbury, who commanded three squadrons of the Colorado troops, to take the hill on the left of the road, which he did in connection with Colonel Gravely, who commanded the picket-line, driving the enemy across the Marais des Cygnes, where they had felled trees to obstruct our progress. Quite a spirited musketry engagement occurred during the passage of the creek. Our forces crossed and resumed the pursuit on a run. The enemy opened with a number of guns, one of which we here captured. They formed in line of battle north of Mine Creek, about 15,000 strong, with eight rifled guns. Our forces advanced in three columns, the right and center first gaining position and forming left front into line of battle—distance about 1,000 yards. The enemy opened a terrific fire of artillery and small-arms, without, however, doing much damage. Our men bore it bravely. At one time the right center was thrown into confusion, but by direction of one of your staff officers was reformed, when Colonel Benteen, commanding third column, arrived on the ground. He was requested to charge, which he did in a telling manner. Our line advanced steadily, determinedly, firing as they went, until it became a hand-to-hand conflict, when the rebel line gave way, retreating in confusion, leaving 8 pieces of artillery in our hands as trophies of the victory, a large amount of ammunition, a number of horses, and from 800 to 1,000 prisoners, two generals, killing General Graham and wounding Colonel Slemons, who died at Newtonia.

Those officers who rendered invaluable services were Colonel Crawford, acting aide-de-camp; Colonel Blair, acting aide-de-camp; Colonel Cloud, acting aide-de-camp; Major Weed, aide-de-camp, all of your staff, and Capt. R. J. Hinton, aide de-camp, General Blunt's staff, and Colonel Benteen, whose presence was necessary to infuse life and spirit into the ranks, and to encourage the foremost in the stern conflict. These officers deserve especial notice. Sergeant Slonaker, of the Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, who accompanied me, rode along the line encouraging the men. He, too, deserves credit. I do not think our whole force amounted to more than 3,000 or 4,000 men. Neither General Pleasonton nor any of his staff were present during this engagement.

We pursued the rebels across the creek, where we drew up in line of battle again, when an orderly came forward inquiring for the commanding officer. I asked him what he wanted. He replied that General Pleasonton did not want the line to advance ere he came up. I sent my compliments to the general, and said it should be as he desired. The rebels were then trying to form on the hill, distant half a mile or more. Nothing of importance occurred under my observation at the next fight. I was so fatigued that I laid down and slept. During the fight at Charlot in the evening I saw a column of cavalry file off to the right, as I thought, with a view of flanking the enemy. I heard the commanding general ask General Pleasonton what it meant; he replied that they were going to Fort Scott by his direction. The general-commanding remonstrated, remarking that the enemy ought to be pursued, especially as they had a bad creek to cross, and would be obliged to leave their transportation. Column at this time was a mile and a half in advance. Commanding general asked how far it was to Fort Scott. A lieutenant from town replied that it was two miles and a half. Went to Fort Scott, which proved to be six or seven miles, over a very bad road. Distance traveled this day about forty miles. October 26, left Fort Scott and traveled about twenty seven miles. October 27, made thirty miles; halted for a cup of coffee and then rode on till 4 a.

m., making since starting in the morning forty-two miles. October 28, marched twenty-five or thirty miles, and in the afternoon fought the rebels at Newtonia. October 29, Generals Sanborn and McNeil having received orders to return to their respective districts, we returned to Neosho to feed and stopped over night; distance, six miles. October 30, renewed the pursuit, made sixteen miles, and camped at Newtonia. October 31, traveled twenty-seven miles and bivouacked near Keetsville.

November 1, cold rain and snow; marched ten miles and camped in the vicinity of Pea Ridge. November 2, rained and snowed all day; laid in camp; received orders to distribute what rations there were, with the view of pushing on to save Fayetteville. November 3, snowing terribly, and roads bad; marched fifteen miles and camped at Cross Hollows. November 4, messengers arrived from Colonel Harrison, stating that his post was attacked in the morning and possibly captured; made a night march of twenty miles, arriving at Fayetteville in time to save it, as the enemy, hearing of our approach, had hurriedly abandoned the place during the night; left Captain Dodge's battery there. November 5, left Fayetteville; marched eleven miles and camped at Prairie Grove. November 6, made twenty-five miles; camped on the Line road, passing through Cane Hill, a rebel hole, where we found forty or fifty prisoners starving and dying, who were paroled. November 7, marched before daylight, making, bad as the roads were, thirty miles, our stock being in bad condition, destitute of corn, and grass poor. November 8, marched some twelve miles through bottom land, and saw the rebels crossing the Arkansas River. By direction of General Curtis hurled a few more shell after them as a parting salute.

I have the honor, general, to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. HUNT,
Major and Chief of Artillery, Department.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Commanding Department of Kansas.

No. 69.

Report of Lieut. George T. Robinson, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, Chief Engineer.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
Fort Leavenworth, November 10, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to your request, I have the honor to submit a statement of different conversations held with Major-General Rosecrans and officers of his staff, October 26 and 27, 1864.

In obedience to an order of Major-General Curtis, a copy of which is hereunto annexed, under date of 21st of October, 1864, I left the line of Big Blue at midnight and proceeded to Kansas City with my assistants and immediately called out the citizens and militia to work upon the lines of fortification there. The battle of Westport commenced at daylight of Sunday, October 23, and the enemy commenced his retreat at about 12 m. of this date. I should here state that on Saturday night at 12 o'clock, in a conversation with General Curtis I understood him to say that he had no precise knowledge as to where Major-

Generals Rosecrans and Pleasonton were, and in his general conversation and directions to me appeared to depend entirely on his own force to keep the enemy in check. I at this time proposed to Major-General Curtis to take a small steam ferry-boat lying at the levee, Kansas City, and run down the Missouri River until I could hear from or see some of the forces of Major-General Rosecrans and carry such dispatches and information as to our situation from General Curtis to General Rosecrans as might be proper. At first General Curtis approved the plan, but finally gave it up as being too hazardous, not knowing where to find, or rather not having any information as to where General Rosecrans could be found. I did not know that our forces had the best of the fighting until Sunday night at dark, when ascertaining that Price's forces had retreated and were being closely pressed by Generals Curtis, Blunt, and Pleasonton, I began to collect my tools from the trenches and prepare to follow on and catch up with the advance of our troops. My duty in collecting the Government property, for which I was accountable, kept me in Kansas City until Monday morning, October 24, at 10 o'clock, at which time I took the road with my assistants, and, accompanied by Colonel Ellithorpe, editor of Leavenworth Conservative, we reached Little Santa Fé the same day at about 2 o'clock; distance, nineteen miles south of Kansas City. Here, as I was entering the town from the north, I met the advance guard of Major-General Rosecrans entering the town from the east or northeast, coming from the direction of Hickman Mills, General Rosecrans in person being some two miles in the rear of his advance. I halted until the general came up, and after seeing him for a few minutes he informed me that he should encamp there for the night, as he informed me his maxim was "to camp early and start early." He at the same time pressed me to remain with him until such time as we should catch the column of General Curtis, stating that he was anxious to push on before daylight and should undoubtedly catch General Curtis before the next night (Tuesday); that he earnestly desired to see me after he had his supper to obtain such information as I was possessed of as to the movement of both forces from Lexington to the present time. A few moments after, Captain Hoelcke, engineer officer on the staff of General Rosecrans, came to me to procure maps of the country between Fort Scott and our present position, stating that the general desired to have him (Captain H.) make copies of the maps at once as General Rosecrans had no maps or guides for that section of country. I very cheerfully gave him full maps of the country and all the information I was possessed of. At about 7 o'clock that evening I was told by an officer that General Rosecrans desired to see me. I went immediately to his quarters and found him at supper. I waited until he came out, when he desired me to give him a free statement of what General Curtis had been doing. I did so as nearly and correctly as I could. After finishing my statements the general turned around to his chief of staff (Colonel Du Bois, I think, was his name, although I was not introduced to any of General Rosecrans' staff) and said to the colonel:

Old Curtis appears to be trying to drive Price right back into Missouri.

The colonel's reply was:

Yes; he is getting things beautifully muddled up.

I said to the general:

General, you do not suppose that General Curtis would open a clear road for Price to go straight through Kansas?

General R. turned quickly toward me and said:

But you know nothing about it.

One of the officers, I think Colonel Du Bois, said General Curtis was a "regular old muddle-head." Captain Hoelcke made the remark that—

The old general was not what he used to be when he knew him; he was getting old and childish.

There appeared to be a general feeling between all the staff officers of General Rosecrans against General Curtis. During the interview, General Rosecrans turned to me and said:

My dear sir, I have had the greatest difficulty in getting General Curtis to believe that Price was in Missouri at all. I have sent him dispatch after dispatch, telegram after telegram, to the effect that Price, with his whole army, was in Missouri, and that he must be on the lookout for him, as it was Price's intention to go to Kansas. In answer, I received from General Curtis a dispatch that the idea of Price, with 3,000 men being in the State of Missouri, was monstrous.

General Rosecrans then turned to Colonel Du Bois and said:

And now, colonel, I guess the old man finds that Price is no fiction; that he is a reality, eh?

The colonel replied:

I should think he did.

Again General Rosecrans said to me:

I have been overpersuaded by that man (having reference to Major-General Curtis) against my own military judgment to send all my troops via Kansas City. It was my wish to send them farther south, but the constant cry of Kansas City, Kansas City, induced me to order my troops there, with the beautiful result of losing the whole thing. Hereafter when I listen to another man and take his advice I shall be a bigger fool than he is.

Again:

I understand, sir, that Jim Lane is running this border ruffian institution, and actually in command of the whole machine.

I told General Rosecrans that General Lane was certainly at the front and doing his duty as a common soldier as were many other Kansas men, but as to his having command of any portion of the troops it was not so. General R. said:

Oh, yes, I understand the whole thing, sir, much better than you possibly can do; I understand and know Jim Lane thoroughly.

A moment after he said to me:

Lieutenant, you are not as much of a Fremont man as when you were on his staff.

I told him I was not. Shortly afterward I went to my own quarters. The column took up the line of march next morning at 7 o'clock, marched until 12 m., making about twenty miles, when a halt was ordered for an hour. I then asked the general what time he intended to camp. His reply was, "Very soon." I ventured to reply that such marching would not catch General Curtis. His reply was:

My dear sir, when you get to be a general remember to start early and camp early, and when you do find your enemy you will be able to fight him with fresh men and fresh horses. You will see that I will have to finish this thing up yet with my infantry—slow but sure. I have the finest body of infantry in the world, and I shall catch Price with them after all the cavalry are used up. Such racing cannot last over forty-eight hours longer, and then comes my turn.

About 1.30 the column took up the line of march again, and at 3 p. m. halted for camp. Finding that if I continued with General Rosecrans my chance of ever rejoining my own command was exceedingly poor I decided upon pushing on and letting General Rosecrans come up with his infantry in his own way. Calling my men together I started on. General Rosecrans was sitting on a log at the side of the road, and asked me where I was going. I told him my place was with my command, and I thought I would not be able to reach it if I remained with him. He jumped up from the stump or log and in a very angry manner said, "Go on, then." There I left him, nor saw nor heard of him afterward. Some five miles farther on my road south I saw coming from the northeast a column of cavalry approaching the road I was then on, moving south. Upon looking at them through my glass I saw a large white flag flying from a lance staff. We waited for them to come up, when I had a conversation with the officer in command. It proved to be a company of the Third Iowa Cavalry, under command of a first lieutenant, carrying a flag of truce, and from forty to fifty prisoners of war, captured at or near Lexington. The lieutenant informed me he carried orders from General Rosecrans to take these prisoners into the lines of Price. I informed him that General Rosecrans was only about five miles back, camped, at which he seemed much surprised, and dismounting his men and prisoners, rode back to see General Rosecrans and get further orders. I marched on, leaving the command and prisoners dismounted on the road. The circumstance at the time struck me as very strange that prisoners should be sent into Price's lines under a flag of truce upon the field of battle.

This, colonel, is a full and correct statement of affairs and conversations held with General Rosecrans. I could not fail to see plainly that a bitter feeling existed between General Rosecrans and his staff toward General Curtis. His actions were spoken of in a very sneering manner; that every move made by General Curtis was made wrong and in a "bungling manner," or, in the language of Colonel Du Bois, "beautifully muddled up." My first impression was (after ascertaining that General Rosecrans was hostile in feeling toward General Curtis) to leave General Rosecrans at once, but I deemed it my duty to ascertain, as nearly as possible, what the precise difficulty was, so that if disaster should befall General Curtis through any lack of co-operation on the part of General Rosecrans I might, perhaps, be able in part to account for such lack. After mature deliberation, coupled with such information as I could glean from casual remarks from different officers connected apparently closely with General Rosecrans, it is my firm conviction that the plan of General Rosecrans was to have Price whip the few raw, undisciplined troops of General Curtis and then crush Price himself (which it strikes me he could have done at any time after Price had entered Missouri), carrying off the palm of victory himself at the fearful cost of sacrificing the whole Kansas frontier.

It is a fearful thing to accuse a man, hitherto honored and respected as Major-General Rosecrans has been and is now, of being a traitor to his flag; yet his lack of co-operation, his tardy pursuit, cast a black shadow upon all his former services, and true, loyal men will see only a desire on his part to hand the State of Missouri over to our enemy without a blow being struck for its defense. I was informed by an officer at Fort Scott that Major-General Smith, commanding the infantry force, had repeatedly urged upon General Pleasonton the necessity of attacking Price and bringing him to bay, so as to allow General Smith to get up with his infantry and artillery force and bring on a

general engagement. This General Pleasonton neglected to obey, and finally a fifth order was sent to General Pleasonton to the effect that if General Pleasonton did not attack Price at once he (General Smith) would be obliged to send General Pleasonton to the rear. If, colonel, this is the case (and the orders of General Smith can be readily obtained) there has been a criminal neglect upon the part of General Rosecrans and General Pleasonton to attack and defeat Price.

I am, colonel, your obedient servant,

GEO. T. ROBINSON,
Lieutenant and Chief Engineer, Department of Kansas.

Lieutenant-Colonel STARK,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Kans., Leavenworth, Kans.

[Inclosure.]

CAMP ON BIG BLUE, *October 21, 1864.*

Colonel COATES,
Commanding, Kansas City:

COLONEL: I send my chief engineer, Captain Robinson, to improve the lines about Kansas City, which we may regard as our next line. It seems to me we can stop Price here. We have fought him since 10 o'clock inch by inch with only a small part of my forces and in many instances beat him back with heavy damage. I cannot ascertain my losses as I am busy preparing for harder work to-morrow. Give Captain Robinson all possible assistance.

Truly, yours,

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, December 3, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Halleck, chief of staff, Washington, D. C.

For the past year I have almost constantly at the request of General Rosecrans sent troops into his department to aid his forces near my border and under his commanders the utmost harmony existed. I regret to see matters seem otherwise when my department was threatened and his troops came within my immediate command, and the within report shows such eccentric conduct and disrespectful feelings toward a comrade in the field as to preclude our future kind co-operation. All that is said about ignorance of Price's presence in Missouri and my lack of efficiency is immaterial to the main point—a lack of sympathy and cordial co-operation and respect for a comrade then in his advance and in the immediate presence of the enemy. Extraordinary delay manifested in bringing forward forces and subsequent hasty and unfortunate orders which withdrew them from my support, may also deserve your notice.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

DECEMBER 11, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to Lieutenant-General Grant.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

No. 70.

Reports of Maj. Samuel B. Davis, U. S. Army, Medical Director.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
November 26, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that in compliance with his order I joined Major-General Blunt at Paola, Kans., the 11th ultimo, and as medical director of his command accompanied him to Lexington, Mo., where on the 19th he first ascertained that the enemy was in Missouri in force. Notwithstanding there was considerable firing on both sides and the rear of General Blunt's retiring command was warmly pressed, I saw and heard of but few casualties. At Independence the following day I was announced, by order of General Curtis, as medical director of the Army of the Border, in the field. During the battle on the Little Blue, the 21st, a hospital was established by my direction in Independence, where the wounded were cared for as fast as they were brought from the field. The slightly wounded and such as were able to ride their horses were permitted to go back to Kansas City. In the afternoon, when our army fell back to the Big Blue, it was deemed impracticable to move the wounded and they were left, thirty-one in number, under the care of Surg. J. P. Erickson, Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. I sent an ambulance, and got from the commissary stores, which had been ordered to be destroyed, sufficient subsistence for those in hospital for several days. I also left a good supply of medical and hospital stores. Late that night I took Surgeon Harvey, U. S. Volunteers, and went up to Kansas City to prepare accommodations for wounded, as a battle was anticipated the next day. The fighting on the 22d was confined to our right, and as our troops were compelled to fall back at that place none but the slightly wounded and such as were able to get away themselves were cared for on that day. Some of the wounded were subsequently taken back to Independence with some of Pleasonton's command who were wounded near the same place.

The next morning I started from Kansas City with all the ambulances to gather the wounded from this field, as I heard that the enemy was retreating, but when I reached Westport I found our troops assembling, and about 7 o'clock the battle of Westport began. During this engagement the ambulances were sent to every accessible part of the field and the wounded brought into Westport, where a temporary hospital was established. I was in the front when the final charge was made, and Price's retreat became a rout. I returned, by consent of General Blunt, to superintend the gathering and preparations for the care of those left wounded on the field. Every part of the battle-ground was carefully searched, and all, as I believe, Union and rebel, were carried into Westport. It was night when I reached that place, and as better accommodations could be had in Kansas City, I directed all who could be safely transported to be taken to that city. The rebels and fourteen Union soldiers, who were too seriously wounded to be moved with safety, were left at Westport in the care of Assistant Surgeon Graham, Thirteenth Kansas. The following morning (24th) I applied to the quartermaster at Kansas City for a boat, who placed the Tom Morgan at my service. She was sent to Independence Landing, and two ambulances, in care of Hospital Steward Keimead, were sent direct to Independence, with instructions to Surgeon Erickson to place all the wounded in his hospital, Union and rebel, on board, to be transported

to Fort Leavenworth. Surgeon Harvey was left in charge of all the hospitals established up to this time, with instructions to telegraph Surgeon Buckmaster, department medical director, as soon as the Tom Morgan should return to Kansas City, the number of wounded on board, and the time she would probably reach Fort Leavenworth. As soon as these arrangements were made I started for the front with the remaining medical officers and ambulances.

Surgeon Ainsworth and Assistant Surgeon Adams, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, and Assistant Surgeons Vance and Akin, Second Colorado Volunteer Cavalry, had gone forward with the command. Surgeon Ainsworth had an abundant supply of medicines, dressings, &c., for the temporary wants of the command, but for some unaccountable cause his ambulance containing his instruments and supplies was sent back to Olathe where it remained. I arrived at Trading Post the evening of the battle of Mine Creek (25th) and learned that the wounded in that engagement had been uncared for and were lying on the ground where they had fallen. I stopped but a few hours to rest and feed the teams and then pushed on, arriving on the field two hours before daylight. Leaving the ambulances with Surgeon Pollok, who was directed to load them as soon as it was light, I went on to Mound City to prepare a place for the wounded. There was but one building in the town at all suitable, and this was filled with commissary and quartermaster stores. These I had taken out and with the aid of the citizens, who liberally contributed beds, bedding, &c., every Union soldier brought in was well and comfortably cared for. The rebel wounded were placed in other buildings and every attention dictated by humanity given them. Surgeon Twiss, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, was placed in charge, and after I was satisfied that every necessary attention would be paid the patients, I started again for the front, accompanied by Surgeon Erickson, who had joined me the evening previous. I had the day before sent Surgeon Pollok with several ambulances, with directions to join the command as soon as possible. When I arrived at Fort Scott I found Surgeon Pollok there waiting for an escort. Colonel Blair was sending forward a train with supplies and could furnish no troops except for the train, and we were compelled to remain with it, until it reached Newtonia. Here I found Assistant Surgeon Akin, Second Colorado Volunteer Cavalry, in charge of the hospital. There was also a rebel hospital in the vicinity, in charge of rebel medical officers. Supplies were issued for both hospitals, and I pushed forward the next day, overtaking the command at Pea Ridge.

While at Mound City I received a telegram from Colonel Blair, commanding at Fort Scott, directing me, by order of General Curtis, to proceed immediately to the front. When I reached Fort Scott I learned that the army was still advancing and that there was a deficiency of medical officers and medical supplies with the command. I immediately telegraphed to Surgeon Harvey, U. S. Volunteers, at Kansas City, that his services were required at the front, and directing him to proceed to Fort Scott and report to Colonel Blair for instructions. Surgeon Harvey did not go to Fort Scott for the reason, as he reports, that Surgeon Buckmaster, medical director of the department, ordered him to remain in his district, notwithstanding he was notified of my order. Surgeon Harvey reports that he visited the hospital at Mound City after being sent to Paola, and remained a short time, but was not again in the field. From Pea Ridge to the Arkansas River the medical offi-

cers kept with their respective commands, and notwithstanding the long and dreadful marches of the campaign scarcely a single case of sickness was reported. When the pursuit of the enemy was abandoned and the army divided, at General Curtis' suggestion I joined Colonel Jennison's brigade, with the view of returning by way of Newtonia with the ambulance train to take the wounded from that place to Fort Scott. When within twenty-eight miles of Newtonia, being in camp three-quarters of a mile in advance of Colonel Jennison's headquarters, I requested of Major Ketner, commanding Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, an escort, which he gave me, and I went forward to make the necessary arrangements to move the wounded without delaying the march of the command. In the afternoon, when Colonel Jennison arrived, he issued an order for my arrest, a copy of which is herewith transmitted (*vide* paper marked B). In a conversation he had with me the colonel told me that the arrest was not made so much for the reasons stated in the order as for "certain connecting circumstances." The "circumstances" referred to I have no knowledge of, unless he referred to a protest which I signed with twenty-two other officers. I inclose a copy, not with the view of volunteering information that may be detrimental to Colonel Jennison, but in the belief that therein lies the cause of the above-mentioned arrest and that Colonel Jennison's action in my case calls for an explanation by him or an exposition by me. The following morning I wrote him a note giving my reasons for leaving the command and going forward, and calling his attention to paragraph 224, Revised Army Regulations. In a short time I received an order releasing me from arrest. The day following (20th instant) Colonel Jennison, while at Sarcoxie, gave me, at my request, an escort of fifty men, and I came through with the wounded, fifteen in number, to Fort Scott with all possible dispatch.

The soldiers wounded in the various battles of the recent campaign were as well cared for as it was possible for them to be under the circumstances. When it is remembered that probably half the medical officers with the command had had little or no experience in the field; that the means and appliances for taking care of wounded men were confined to such as could be transported in light ambulances; that the campaign was one of forced and rapid marches and of short and decisive battles; that hundreds of miles intervened between scenes of battles fought at intervals so short that they seemed but one engagement, and that notwithstanding such unparalleled and unlooked for obstacles it is not known that any life was lost for want of timely assistance, but on the other hand the wounded, friend and foe, all found hospitals and surgical aid, justice would seem to claim an acknowledgment that the medical officers of the Army of the Border had done their duty. Among those of my assistants deserving of special notice are Surg. Philip Harvey, U. S. Volunteers; Surgeon Pollok, Second Colorado Volunteer Cavalry; Surg. E. Twiss, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry; Surg. J. P. Erickson, Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, and Assistant Surgeon Akin, Second Colorado Volunteer Cavalry. These officers were very active and untiring in the discharge of their several duties. Mention is due to Mr. J. R. Brown, agent U. S. Sanitary Commission, who went to Kansas City and Westport with supplies that were much needed. He accompanied me to Mound City, where he rendered efficient aid in preparing and furnishing the hospital at that place, and subsequently returned to Leavenworth for fresh supplies, which he judiciously applied to the comfort and relief of those in the various hospitals.

The number of Union wounded as reported in the different hospitals is, at Independence, 50; Kansas City, 64; Mound City, 56; Fort Scott, 62; Westport, 14, and Newtonia, 43; total, 289. Of rebel wounded, at Independence, 23; Westport, 39; Mound City, 62; Fort Scott, 16, and Newtonia, 46; total, 189. The rebel medical officers at Newtonia stated that their retreating army was taking with it over 400 wounded officers and men. In the vicinity of Cane Hill they had left 34 too badly wounded to be taken farther. So far as I have been able to learn the mortality among the rebel wounded has been much greater than that among our own, there being a greater proportion of wounds of the abdomen and lower extremities in the former than in the latter. At Newtonia, on my return, I found that out of 46 treated by their own surgeons 17 had died, while at the hospital under the care of Doctor Akin 6 only had died. At Mound City I found on my return that 16 rebels and 3 Union wounded had died, the number of each treated being about equal. I have heard nothing of those brought to Fort Leavenworth for treatment.

I should in the proper connection have stated that the wounded at Mine Creek belonged principally to General Pleasonton's command, and that I found one assistant surgeon who claimed to have charge of them, but was without means or ability to provide for them. As soon as they were placed in hospital said officer went forward to join his command, which he met near Fort Scott returning from the field.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. B. DAVIS,
Surgeon, U. S. Volunteers.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
November 30, 1864.

SIR: Inclosed please find list of wounded as furnished by surgeons in charge of the hospitals at Independence, Kansas City, Mound City, Fort Scott, and Newtonia. It differs slightly in the aggregate from the number named in my report sent you through Major General Blunt. Those in hospital at Westport (fourteen in number) were not reported to me, while the number reported by Surgeon Van Duyn at Fort Scott does not appear on the list he has furnished. This list is intended to accompany and form a part of the report above mentioned.*

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. B. DAVIS,
Surgeon, U. S. Volunteers.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Nominal list (omitted) shows 2 commissioned officers and 48 enlisted men in hospital at Independence; 1 commissioned officer and 29 enlisted men in Hospital No. 1, 2 commissioned officers and 29 enlisted men in Hospital No. 2, at Kansas City; 57 enlisted men in hospital at Mound City; 3 commissioned officers and 50 enlisted men in hospital at Fort Scott, and 44 enlisted men in hospital at Newtonia, Mo.

No. 71.

Report of Maj. Theodore J. Weed, U. S. Army, Aide-de-Camp and Chief Commissary of Musters.

COMMISSARY OF MUSTERS, DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, December 1, 1864.

MAJOR: In pursuance of general field orders, dated headquarters Army of the Border, Camp Arkansas, November 8, 1864, I have the honor to report that in obedience to telegraphic instructions from the field, dated October 20, 1864, I left this post on the morning of the 22d and joined the commanding general at Westport, Mo., on the evening of the same day. As our forces had been slowly pressed back on that day by the largely superior force of the enemy, the commanding general had determined to occupy the defensive works of Kansas City with that portion of the force that had been engaged on the road leading from Kansas City to Independence, and I was directed to proceed to the line of earth-works on the east of the city and place the troops in position on their arrival from the field. This duty having been accomplished, at 10 p. m. I repaired to the Gillis house, where the general had established headquarters, at which place I remained during the night. Early on the morning of the 23d I accompanied the general to Westport, and found on arriving there that our forces had already engaged the enemy about one mile and a half south of town. At this hour (7.30 a. m.) it seemed to be the object of the rebels to turn our right flank, and heavy bodies of his cavalry could be plainly seen from the roof of the Westport hotel moving in a direction a little north of west. Our forces now began to arrive from Kansas City, and were promptly pushed out on a road leading west from Westport for the purpose of checking this last movement of the enemy. I remained with the general until 11 a. m., when I was directed to go to our right and order Major-General Deitzler, commanding a force of militia, to push his column forward and drive the rebels from the timber southwest of town, where a small body of them had taken position. On reaching the open prairie, about three miles west, I found that the attempt of the enemy to turn our right had completely failed and he had withdrawn all his force from that part of the field. I immediately informed the commanding general of this fact, when a charge through the timber south of town was at once ordered and promptly executed. On reaching the prairie beyond the timber our artillery was opened on the rebel line, distant about half a mile, with such effect as to cause its dispersion in less than half an hour. The pursuit was prompt, and three miles south of the timber our column joined that of Major-General Pleasonton, who had been engaged with the enemy on our left during the early part of the day, and our united forces were that night pushed as far south as Little Santa Fé, skirmishing with the enemy, who continued his hurried retreat.

At daylight on the morning of the 24th the division of Major-General Blunt started in pursuit of the enemy, on what is known as the Line road, and a half hour later, as the major general commanding was about to follow, a staff officer of General Pleasonton (Colonel Cole) came up and informed him that as the division of General Blunt had already started and occupied the Line road over which the enemy had retreated, he (General Pleasonton) would take the Harrisonville road with his troops, keeping on the flank of the rebel force. General Pleasonton was at once sent for and on reiterating what the staff officer had said, was informed by Major-General Curtis that such a

movement could not for an instant be thought of and would not under any circumstances be tolerated, and that if his division did not at once follow upon the trail of the enemy he should assume immediate command of the troops that the success already achieved might not be frittered away in following on a road over which no enemy had retreated. The pursuit was continued vigorously until 8 p. m., at which hour we reached West Point, when the division of General Pleasonton was placed in the advance for a night march, and at midnight reached the vicinity of Trading Post, a small settlement at the crossing of the Marais des Cygnes, and halted. I immediately proceeded to the front, in company with Major McKenny, to ascertain the cause of the halt, and learned from Brigadier-General Sanborn that his advance had struck the enemy's column on a high mound half a mile north of the town, and that owing to the darkness of the night and want of knowledge of the country he could not and would not assume the responsibility of moving any farther until daylight. On making these facts known to the commanding general, he ordered the artillery of General Sanborn's brigade forward to open at once upon the enemy's line. At 4 a. m. on the 25th, no firing having been heard, I was directed to go to the front and ascertain why the artillery had not opened as directed some hours previous. On arriving there I found the battery just going into position about half a mile from the position occupied by the enemy during the night, and four guns were very soon opened upon the crest of this mound. After a few shots had been fired Maj. R. H. Hunt rode up from our skirmish line and begged them to cease firing from that point, as their shells were falling in the midst of our own men, who had already driven the rebel line from their position. I then learned from Major Hunt that three companies of the Second Colorado Cavalry, who had been in advance during the day and night previous, had, in the darkness and rain, pushed forward without support and gained possession of this commanding point. On returning to report to the commanding general I met Brigadier-General Sanborn, who had just left his quarters, and informed him of the facts stated above. I remained with the major-general commanding until Philips' brigade had crossed the stream at Trading Post, when I was ordered over with a message to General Pleasonton, and after delivering it proceeded to the front in company with Colonel Blair and Maj. R. H. Hunt. Three miles south of Trading Post, with Mine Creek in their rear, we found the entire fighting force of the enemy (Shelby's division excepted) drawn up in line of battle. As only one brigade of our own troops had come up, I rode a short distance back on a road running parallel with and to the left of the one on which Philips' brigade had marched, and very soon met Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen at the head of his brigade, and informed him of the position of the enemy. He pushed rapidly forward, and on coming in sight of the rebel line at once formed his brigade for a charge. I then started to return to the troops already on the field, to urge upon the commanding officer a charge at the same moment with that of Benteen. Before reaching this command, however, I was accosted by an officer who pointed to the right center regiment of Philips' brigade, and asked me to take that regiment into action, and to tell the men that their colonel would soon be with them. He then rode off at a rapid pace in a northwesterly direction, probably upon some urgent mission. I at once rode to the head of the regiment indicated, gave the message to all the officers, and to lessen as much as possible the depressing effect of the absence of their commanding officer upon the men, charged with and in advance of them. As they came

near enough to the enemy's line to open fire I crossed their front and took position in the line on the right, where, in conjunction with Maj. R. H. Hunt, I did what I could to encourage and urge it forward. After the enemy's line had been broken and his whole force put to flight, I rode to the left of our line and assisted in gathering together and sending to the rear a large number of prisoners who had been captured with the artillery taken by Benteen's brigade. While engaged in this duty I heard of the capture of General Marmaduke, and some twenty minutes later, meeting General Pleasonton, who was just coming onto the field, I informed him of that fact, also telling him that Marmaduke had already been sent to the rear. I then, at his request, took several squads of our men who had been separated from their commands during the charge and proceeded to pick up prisoners, who were scattered over every part of the battle-ground, some under guard and many making their way to the rear without guard and with no guide except their fears. After having performed this duty I reported to the commanding general, who had already crossed Mine Creek, and was directed to proceed to the rear and urge forward the division of Major-General Blunt and the brigade of Brigadier-General McNeil with all possible speed. These troops had been delayed by the breaking down of some transportation wagons at the most difficult point of crossing, and some time elapsed before the road could again be opened. I returned to the front with General McNeil and Major Charlot, and on arriving there reported to and remained with the commanding general until nearly sundown, when we came up with General Pleasonton, who had commenced withdrawing his troops from the field, and announced to the commanding general that Fort Scott was safe and that, so far as he was concerned, the campaign was ended. Upon being told by the commanding general that the campaign was not ended and that the pursuit of Price would be continued until he was captured or driven beyond the Arkansas River, and that the troops must not be diverted from this work, he changed his tune, and said that the men and horses of his division were worn down with fatigue and exposure, that the men were and had been for two or three days without rations, the horses without forage, and many of them without shoes, and that he must move them to Fort Scott to rest and recuperate. As a large portion of General Pleasonton's forces was already on the road to this place and darkness was fast coming on the commanding general reluctantly consented to turn in that direction also and arrived in the town at 9 p. m. On the following morning, by direction of the commanding general, I left orders at the office depot quartermaster that 50,000 rations for the men and 50,000 rations of corn for the horses should at once be sent in half-loaded wagons after the army with orders to follow day and night till it was overtaken. After giving these orders I joined the general, who was at an early hour again in the saddle, pushing every available man after the enemy, who had been so badly beaten and demoralized on the day previous. From this time I remained at headquarters rendering such aid as required in directing the movements of the army until the morning of November 8, when our forces halted on the banks of the Arkansas, having driven the enemy in utter confusion beyond the stream.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. WEED,
Major and Aide-de-Camp, Chief Commissary of Musters.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Kansas.

No. 72.

Report of Col. William F. Cloud, Second Kansas Cavalry, Acting Aide-de-Camp.

LEAVENWORTH CITY, KANS.,
November 20, 1864.

MAJOR: In obedience to Orders, No. —, I have the honor to report as to the duties performed and engagements participated in by myself, as aide-de-camp, and a battalion Second Kansas Cavalry, commanded by Maj. H. Hopkins, Capt. Pat. Cosgrove, and Lieuts. Barney Mitchell and Watts, in the campaign of the Army of the Border.

Arriving at General Curtis' headquarters at Kansas City on the 19th of October, I was placed upon duty as aide-de-camp, and as such proceeded to Fort Leavenworth for horses, arms, &c., for my detachment, and reported again at army headquarters on the morning of the 22d, the position of the army being upon the Big Blue. I had the honor to convey orders to the various positions during the day, and in obedience to orders arranged the plans of defense of Westport at night, by and with the assistance of Colonel Ford, Second Colorado, and Colonel Walker and Major Ketner, Sixteenth Kansas, after which I passed the night at headquarters, Kansas City. On the morning of the 23d, at the request of Major-General Blunt, I reported to him for duty and was sent with a detachment of the Second Kansas Cavalry to watch the extreme right of our lines at Westport and to ascertain the position and movements of the enemy who were engaging our forces. Having performed that duty and reported I was ordered to our extreme left for the same purpose, and there observing that General Pleasonton was engaging the enemy far to our left, I again reported facts to Generals Curtis and Blunt and joined in the advance of our entire lines, then taking place, keeping the road and assisting in bringing up, placing, and working the artillery, and carring orders to the various parts of the line. When the lines of General Pleasonton joined to ours I engaged in the pursuit of the rebels as far as Little Santa Fé, which was a chase of nine miles, and in which our part of the line was advanced many miles beyond the rebels, who were leisurely falling back before Pleasonton. In fact, the long columns of the rebels were taken by myself, Colonels Crawford and Ritchie (who were with me), for the forces of General Pleasonton as they came so far from our rear and passed within a mile of us upon the prairie. Remaining at Santa Fé with the army until the morning of the 24th I reported to General Curtis and engaged in the pursuit of the enemy during that day and night, and as the general moved upon the enemy at the Trading Post at early daylight of the 25th I was temporarily detained by General Blunt until our forces had crossed the Osage or Marais des Cygnes, and was only able to join the advance of Pleasonton's troops just as they came in sight of the enemy drawn up in line at Mine Creek. Here reporting to General Pleasonton I was sent by that officer to an adjoining farm-house to ascertain the road to Fort Scott, &c., and having obtained the information I returned to our lines just as they were formed and now moving upon the enemy. Accompanied by a small detachment of the Second Kansas Cavalry, commanded by Sergeant Peck, I moved forward in the space between our extreme right and the left, giving such orders and encouragement to our forces as seemed necessary. In this order we came to a rebel battery, the men of which had ceased to fight from fear, at which a rebel colonel

(Jeffers) surrendered to me, claiming protection for himself and men. Giving such directions as seemed proper for the guarding of prisoners, I moved to another part of the field, assisting in arresting prisoners and securing several pieces of artillery abandoned by the rebels in their retreat through the brush and creek. Seeing General Pleasonton upon the field near to a section of artillery, I moved forward and reported facts as directed, and then observing that he was directing the fire of our artillery upon a detachment of our own troops I so informed him, but was rebuked. Still persisting in my statements, I had them confirmed by an officer from the detachment under fire, whose assurances united with my own and prevailed upon the same to give the order to cease firing, saying at the same time "You should carry your colors upon the battle-field."

The battle being over and our lines reformed for the continuation of the pursuit, I requested and obtained permission to take my command to the extreme front, and reported to General Sanborn, who gave me the extreme right of his line. In this manner we moved several miles across the prairie until we reached the timber of the Little Osage, in which the rebels had placed another line of defense. At the order of General Sanborn the Second Kansas Cavalry was moved forward as skirmishers, some mounted and some dismounted, and drove the enemy out of the woods and across the river. Here the enemy had another line formed, and our troops were ordered forward, the Second Kansas remaining in its position on the right, and in this order, pressing forward, we reached from right to left in the form of a crescent, which placed us in the advance of the center. When the rebels retreated from our steadily advancing army, my command had the advance from the advantageous formation of the ground, and leading in this manner pursued the enemy for the distance of three miles in a continuous charge until compelled to halt from the sheer exhaustion of the horses, many of them falling under their riders. Here, permitting the more fresh troops which came up to take the advance, and as the rebels had turned into Missouri, abandoning their movement against Fort Scott, my command and myself rested our horses and engaged in repairing the telegraph, which had been destroyed by the rebels, and at night, which soon came on, moved to Fort Scott. On the morning of the 26th we moved again in the pursuit and continued the same to Lamar, Mo., from which place, in obedience to orders, my command returned to Fort Scott to prepare to escort a train to Fort Smith.

I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of Major Hopkins, commanding detachment Second Kansas Cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. F. CLOUD,
Colonel Second Kansas Cavalry.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Kansas.

No. 73.

Report of Maj. Henry Hopkins, Second Kansas Cavalry.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
November 26, 1864.

I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the detachment of the Second Kansas Cavalry of 150 men, under Cap-

tain Cosgrove and Lieutenants Mitchell and Watts, in the engagements on the border with the Confederate forces under General Price:

On receiving orders from you on the 20th day of October, 1864, in pursuance to instructions from headquarters Department of Kansas, to proceed with the detachment from Fort Scott, Kans., to Paola, Kans., and thence to join you at army headquarters at Kansas City, I moved the command immediately, arriving at that post October 22. Arriving at Olathe, Kans., I found it very difficult to ascertain the position of our army under General Curtis. Moved to Little Santa Fé, directly east of this place, and reported to you as directed. At this place I received orders from you to report to Maj. C. S. Charlot, assistant adjutant-general, with the detachment as personal escort to General Curtis. We marched from Little Santa Fé to the Trading Post, Linn County, Kans., arriving there on the morning of October 25, 1864, where the enemy were found in force. At this point the detachment was relieved for the present from escort duty and ordered by Major Charlot to report to you for duty. The detachment was formed on the right of our line at this point and retained this position in the charges on the rebels at Mine Creek. Arriving at the crossing of ——— Creek at Charlot, eight miles southeast of Mound City, Kans., the detachment was formed immediately in front of our line and deployed as skirmishers, driving in the entire skirmish line of the enemy across the creek. The command was again formed on the right and participated in several charges, which resulted in a complete rout of the enemy. The command participated in the engagements during the entire day and at night moved for Fort Scott, Kans., arriving on the morning of October 26, 1864. At 10 a. m. the same day I again received orders to report to Major-General Curtis for duty and accompanied the Army of the Border to Lamar, Mo., at which point orders were received to return again to Fort Scott, and arrived there on morning of October 28, 1864.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY HOPKINS,
Major Second Kansas Cavalry.

Col. W. F. CLOUD,
Second Kansas Cavalry.

No. 74.

Report of Capt. Merritt H. Insley, U. S. Army, Assistant Quartermaster.

DEPOT QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Fort Scott, Kans., December 1, 1864.

MAJOR: In compliance with general field order, dated headquarters Army of the Border, Camp Arkansas, November 8, 1864, I have the honor to submit the following report:

At the time the general commanding took the field against the rebel army under General Price I was attending to the duties of depot quartermaster at this post. In obedience to orders from the general commanding, and in consequence of the imminent danger of an attack upon this post by the enemy, under command of the rebel General Price, in his retreat southward, after his defeats in the vicinity of Westport, Mo., all the public stores were loaded into wagons and transported into the interior of the State, beyond the reach of the enemy, under my direction, though in the immediate charge of citizen employés of the quartermaster's department. The trains were absent from October 24

to November 3, 1864. As soon as it could be done with safety they were returned to the post. The vast amount of public property thus suddenly and unexpectedly thrown upon my hands for security, when no assistance could be rendered me, except such as was obtained from a limited number of employés of my department, was safely placed beyond the reach of the enemy, even though he had taken the post, and safely returned again with but trifling loss of stores. After the great and decisive battle of Osage, in which our troops gained such imperishable honors, they encamped at this post and were supplied by me with forage, &c. I was instructed by the general commanding, October 26, to send on half loads as rapidly as possible to his command, then following up the retreating rebel army, of supplies as follows, viz: 50,000 rations of commissary stores and 50,000 rations of old corn. I made every effort within my power to comply with instructions as above stated. The public transportation not yet returned to the depot, I was compelled to gather transportation from every available source, to enable me to forward supplies as directed. To do this I hired such wagons and teams as I could here, purchased mules to replace those worn out on the march and to fit out teams, and impressed all others in the vicinity. The night of October 26 I loaded and sent in charge of Lieutenant Josling, Fourteenth Kansas, fifty wagons loaded with corn and commissary stores; October 27, in charge of Lieutenant Ehle, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, forty-five wagons loaded with corn and commissary stores; October 28, in charge of Captain Young, fifty-two wagons loaded with corn, commissary, and ordnance stores; October 29, in charge of Jeff. Anthony, wagon-master, thirty-seven wagons loaded with ordnance, corn, and commissary stores; November 1, in charge of J. McKinney, wagon-master, fifty-three wagons loaded with ordnance, corn, and commissary stores; November 3, in charge of J. Richards, wagon-master, forty-one wagons loaded with corn and commissary stores; November 13, in charge of Lieutenant Josling, Fourteenth Kansas, twenty wagons and two ambulances loaded with hard bread and corn.

After the battle of Osage I saved the following list of captured property, viz: 7 head of cattle, 20 horses, 3 mules, 6 U. S. mules recaptured from the enemy, 18 army wagons.

A very large amount of transportation was entirely destroyed at their encampment on the night of the 26th of October.

Col. C. W. Blair, commanding the post, rendered all facilities within his power, by furnishing escorts and otherwise, in sending forward the necessary supplies to the command.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. H. INSLEY,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. Army.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Kansas, Fort Leavenworth.

No. 75.

Reports of Capt. Edwin I. Meeker, U. S. Army, Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, DEPT. OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, November 22, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the signal detachment, Department of Kansas, in the late

campaign after the rebel Price, through a portion of the States of Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, and through the Indian Territory:

When I took command of this signal detachment I found it without horses and without transportation. The general commanding had said that as we were not in the field, and as horses were hard to get, he needed all the horses he could raise to mount his cavalry. As soon as there was a prospect of getting into the field I got permission from the commanding general to mount all my officers fit for duty and three men for each officer, and to draw one wagon. This being done, on the 11th of October, at noon, we started with the commanding general for the front. On the night of the first day out, there being no staff quartermaster, Second Lieut. J. R. Fitch, Signal Corps, in addition to his other duties, was announced by General Curtis as staff quartermaster. A copy of the order is inclosed.* On the same day, previous to this, First Lieutenant Roberts, acting signal officer, had been appointed an acting aide by the commanding general. A copy of the order appointing him is inclosed.* We traveled rapidly through Olathe, Wyandotte, and Kansas City, to Independence, where we first met the enemy without any opportunity for doing signal duty. While at Wyandotte Lieutenant Hubbard received an order appointing him acting assistant adjutant-general in charge of returns. A copy of the order is inclosed.* On the 21st of October we fell back slowly from Independence to Big Blue, and formed our lines. On the 22d of October, early in the morning, I sent Lieutenant Hubbard on the extreme right of our lines (about two miles from the road) to make observations, and Lieutenant Neely on the extreme left, about half a mile from the road, for the same purpose. Both officers were instructed to make reports every thirty minutes, whether there was anything to report or not. As we could not open signal communication to where the general was on the road on account of heavy timber, they were instructed to send messages by courier. The reports sent by those two officers proved to be in every way reliable and of the utmost importance to the commanding general. By his order, I sent copies of all messages as fast as they came in to Major-General Blunt, Major-General Deitzler, and Colonel Blair, commanding, respectively, the right, left, and center of the army. At this time Lieutenants Roberts and Quinby were acting as aides on the staff of General Curtis. About dark, as the enemy had moved to our right, our line fell back, and, by order from General Curtis, I reported with Lieutenants Hubbard and Neely to him at Kansas City, where he had established his headquarters. Inclosed I send reports of Lieutenants Hubbard and Neely, with list of messages sent that day and during the remainder of the campaign. Here I must remark that the two officers mentioned above merit my warmest approbation for the energy displayed and the reliability that attended their dispatches. It was their first experience in the field as signal officers, and they did their duty well. Early next morning, the 23d of October, Lieutenant Hubbard was sent to the extreme front to open communication with Lieutenants Quinby and Neely, who were stationed on a high house in Westport, four miles from Kansas City, to which point in the meantime the general had repaired. Before communication could be established the enemy were fleeing, and as the general moved out the line was abandoned. Lieutenants Quinby and Neely made some valuable observations, which were verbally reported to the general. Lieutenant Hubbard also sent a number of messages to the general as he was ad-

* Omitted.

vancing. Before daylight of the next day Lieutenant Hubbard took position on high blue church and sent back important information. He was with the advance all this day and until noon of the 25th, sending back such information as he could pick up. On the morning of the 26th Lieutenants Hubbard and Neely collected considerable information from different sources in the vicinity of Fort Scott of such importance that the commanding general based his orders for that day upon the information sent in by those two officers. In the meantime all the signal officers were kept busy by the commanding general as aides. On the 1st of November I received a verbal order from General Curtis to furnish a quartermaster's detail for headquarters, and turned over to Lieutenant Fitch, staff quartermaster, fifteen men, under charge of Sergeant Warriner. On the 5th of November Lieutenant Quinby was sent on special duty to Saint Louis. A copy of the order is inclosed.* On the 8th day of November the Arkansas River was reached and the chase abandoned. We had nothing now to do but to return home, a distance of 300 miles. The officers and men of the corps have acquitted themselves well. Lieutenants Roberts and Quinby rendered valuable service to the commanding general as aides, as also did Lieutenant Fitch as quartermaster; the three officers would have been called upon by me to do signal duty had there been any such duty to perform. During the campaign a great many observations and reports were made by the signal officers that were given to the general verbally, and of which we have no record, from the fact that we moved so rapidly, making 822 miles in thirty-nine days, an average of twenty-one miles per day.

No lines of communication could be opened, although we were always ready and anxious to do that kind of work. My thanks are due the officers, sergeants, and men for the alacrity and willingness with which all my orders were obeyed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. I. MEEKER,
Captain, Chief Signal Officer, Department of Kansas.

Lieut. Col. W. J. L. NICODEMUS,
In charge of Signal Bureau, Washington, D. C.

HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, DEPT. OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, November 23, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to published instructions, I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the signal detachment, Department of Kansas, during the late campaign, after the rebel Price:

On the 10th of October, learning that it was the intention of the commanding general to take the field in person, I applied for and obtained permission to mount all of my officers and such number of my men as was absolutely needed, and to draw one wagon. This being accomplished, on the 11th of October, with thirty minutes' notice, we started with the headquarters of the commanding general at noon for the front. In the meantime Lieutenant Roberts, acting signal officer, by your order, had been appointed an acting aide-de-camp. At the close of the first day's march, there being no staff quartermaster, Lieut. J. R. Fitch, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, was appointed by your order staff quartermaster. Passing rapidly through Olathe, Wyandotte, and Kansas City, we first met the enemy on the Little Blue, near Inde-

* Omitted.

pendence. While at Wyandotte Lieutenant Hubbard, acting signal officer, was by your order appointed acting assistant adjutant-general in charge of returns. After falling slowly back, our lines were formed on the Big Blue. Early next morning I sent Lieutenant Hubbard to the extreme right of the line about two miles from the road for the purpose of making observations of the enemy's movements, and Lieutenant Neely to the left of the line, half a mile from the road, for the same purpose. The places selected by those two officers (assisted by Lieutenant Roberts) were admirably adapted for the purpose intended. Each one had a fine view of the Independence road and surrounding country and could see any and all important movements of the enemy. These two officers were instructed to report every thirty minutes, whether they had anything of interest to report or not. On account of heavy timber we could not open signal communication, and messages had to be sent to the commanding general at his headquarters on the cross-roads by courier. During the day the general rode to Westport; the signal messages, however, were regularly transmitted to him by courier. By your order copies of all messages were also sent to Major-General Deitzler, Major-General Blunt, and Colonel Blair. These stations were held all day, and the reports sent in were of great importance, as the entire movement of the enemy to our right was discovered, as was also their wagon train.

As the line was withdrawn, about dark, I received your order to report with Lieutenants Hubbard and Neely at headquarters established at Kansas City. Next morning, 23d of October, I sent Lieutenant Hubbard to the front, to open communication with Lieutenants Quinby and Neely, placed on top of a high house in Westport. Before communication was fairly established the enemy were fleeing, and as the general moved to the front the line was abandoned. Lieutenants Quinby and Neely, however, sent valuable observation messages to the general, as did also Lieutenant Hubbard from the front. Before daylight of the next day Lieutenant Hubbard left Santa Fé, and took position on high blue church and sent back important information; he was with the advance all this day, and until noon of the 25th, sending back such information as he could pick up. On the morning of the 26th Lieutenants Hubbard and Neely collected valuable information from different sources in the vicinity of Fort Scott, of such importance that the commanding general, as I am informed, based his orders for that day upon the information sent back by those two officers. During all these movements the other officers of the corps were used by the commanding general as aides.

On the 1st of November I received a verbal order from the general commanding to furnish a quartermaster detail, and in obedience to that I ordered all my men not used as orderlies to report to Lieutenant Fitch, staff quartermaster. On the 5th of November Lieutenant Quinby, acting signal officer, was detailed by your order to proceed to Saint Louis on special duty. On the 8th of November the Arkansas River was reached and the chase abandoned. During the campaign a great many observations and reports were made by the signal officers, which were given to the general verbally and of which we have no record. From the fact that we moved so rapidly, and spent so little time in any one place, no signal lines of communication could be opened, although we were always ready and anxious to do that kind of duty. The observations made on the line of the Big Blue, and at other places, proved to be reliable, and I believe gave satisfaction to the commanding general.

My thanks are due Lieutenants Hubbard, Roberts, Quinby, and Neely, and the men of the detachment for the energy displayed, and the willingness under any circumstances to obey all orders given them. With the exception of Lieutenant Roberts, it was their first experience in the field as signal officers, and they did their duty well. The men of the detachment were all new recruits, and this was their first campaign. Lieutenant Fitch, signal officer, being staff quartermaster, was entirely taken up with his quartermaster duties, and he scarcely came under my command at all. It is presumed, however, he gave entire satisfaction to the general and staff.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. I. MEEKER,

Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Department of Kansas.

Major-General CURTIS,

Commanding.

No. 76.

Report of Lieut. Josiah M. Hubbard, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, Acting Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,

Fort Leavenworth, November 29, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to present the following report of staff duty performed by me under your order dated October 16, 1864, assigning me to duty at headquarters Army of the Border as acting assistant adjutant-general in charge of returns:

Immediately upon the receipt of the aforesaid order I visited or communicated directly with all commanders of divisions, brigades, and detachments within my reach, and by the 20th of October had succeeded in procuring returns from the following commands, viz: A division of Kansas State Militia, under command of Major-General Deitzler, Kansas State Militia; the Third Brigade of the First Division; a brigade of volunteers and militia, commanded by Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry, and a brigade of Enrolled Missouri Militia and Home Guards, at Kansas City, commanded by Colonel Coates. The returns of these commands and the detachment which habitually accompanied headquarters form an imperfect army return, bearing date the 20th of October, 1864. The First and Second Brigades of the First Division left their camp at Hickman Mills, Mo., on the evening of the same day on which I was assigned to this duty and before I was able to reach that place, and although I made every effort possible I was unable to obtain any returns from them within the time mentioned. From the 21st to the 27th of October the army was constantly in motion and almost constantly in action, and, with your permission, I devoted my time to duty in the capacity of a signal officer, under the direction of my chief, Captain Meeker. On the 28th of October I resumed the effort to procure returns, and succeeded in getting memoranda of the strength present of the brigades comprising the First Division, which are consolidated upon a return bearing date the 28th of October, 1864. The brigades from the Department of Missouri, commanded by Generals McNeil and Sanborn, were at the time operating with the army, but though returns from both were promised me, none were ever received. On the 1st of November the

brigade from the Department of Missouri, commanded by Lieut. Col. Benteen, joined the army, and a return bearing date the same day shows the accessions. On the 4th of November the army reached Fayetteville, Ark., and on marching from that post was further strengthened by the greater part of its garrison, under command of Colonel Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry.

A return dated the 8th of November, 1864, shows the strength of the army, including Colonel Harrison's command, at the close of its existence. The information upon which these later returns were based was mostly obtained verbally on personal application to commanding and staff officers of brigades, regiments, and sometimes of companies. Very few commanders had come into the field prepared or expecting to make returns of any kind during the active operations of the campaign, and furthermore their time and thoughts were engrossed by, to them, more important matters. These and other difficulties under which I labored, and which it would occupy too much time and space to particularize here, together with my own inexperience in the duties to which I was assigned, must be my excuse for the incompleteness of these returns and the imperfect manner in which those duties were performed.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSIAH M. HUBBARD,

First Lieut., 11th Kans. Vol. Cav., Actg. Sig. Officer, late A. A. A. G.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,

Commanding Department of Kansas.

No. 77.

Report of Lieut. Cyrus M. Roberts, Seventy-eighth Ohio Infantry, Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, December 15, 1864.

SIR: Deeming it my duty, I most respectfully submit the following report:

On the 22d of October, during the afternoon, when Col. C. R. Jennison's command was attacked at Byram's Crossing of the Big Blue, you ordered me at Westport, Mo., to go to Hickman Mills, Mo., and order all the forces that might be there to immediately re-enforce Colonel Jennison. Arriving at the Mills I found Maj. John M. Laing in command of a part of the Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry and delivered him your order. His command was feeding. I also saw the Twenty-first Regiment Kansas State Militia, which was just ready to mount. I delivered your order to the colonel (Lowe) commanding, and his regiment moved immediately forward "at a trot." I again went to Major Laing, as I did not see him preparing to march, and insisted upon his hurrying forward. Upon this he ordered his command to prepare to march, and I left him to follow on. I then rode forward and caught up to Colonel Lowe. When we arrived on the brink of the hill descending to the Big Blue we saw right ahead of us, as far as the eye could reach, clouds of dust along the road, and knew it must be the main column of the enemy advancing. In a very few minutes (perhaps five) the Twenty-first Kansas State Militia had dismounted and formed in line of battle

along the brink of the hill, the horses were led a little way to the rear, but before the line was formed the advance of the enemy was coming up the road through a narrow defile at the foot of the hill. Those of the Twenty-first Regiment who could see the enemy commenced firing. Their advance immediately fell back out of sight and formed in a body, but in a few minutes came forward with a yell. The Twenty-first fired a volley into them and they fell back out of sight. While this was going on Major Laing's command came up where the horses were held, but instead of rendering the militia assistance they turned immediately back, leaving the Twenty-first Kansas State Militia to get out the best way they could. Several of the militia to the rear followed, but Colonel Lowe, Lieutenant Colonel Robinson, and myself, drew our weapons and kept the militia (who were giving way) to the front. The enemy appeared very much demoralized and did not seem to want to give us battle after this. Holding our position for twenty or thirty minutes without another attack—the skirmishing was constantly going on—we concluded best to mount and pass around the enemy to the west, and, if possible, join you. It was getting late and darkness came on before we had gone one mile. On our way through Little Santa Fé we inquired and found out that Major Laing and his command had passed through en route to Kansas. I have heard that the officers and men with Major Laing did not wish to turn back, but were eager to assist and thought it very strange that he did not help the militia. Believing that the conduct of Maj. John M. Laing should not go unnoticed is my reason for making this statement to you.

I have the honor to state that Colonel Lowe and Lieutenant-Colonel Robinson behaved gallantly, showing much bravery, although not accustomed to such heavy fire. Every suggestion that I made to them was immediately carried out.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CYRUS M. ROBERTS,
First Lieutenant and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans.

No. 78.

Report of Hon. James H. Lane, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

In compliance with your request that I report to you the part I took in the recent campaign against Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, and what facts came under my observation during that campaign, as volunteer aide-de-camp upon your staff, I have the honor to submit the following:

On my arrival at Fort Leavenworth from Washington City, via Saint Louis, I found you absorbed in preparations to resist the invasion of Kansas by the rebel army under General Price, which was then marching through the State of Missouri intact, gathering strength day by day as it approached our border. The military force of the department having been rapidly concentrated in the eastern portion of the State, comprising volunteers and militia, all under the immediate command of Major-General Blunt, I reported to you at Olathe on the 10th of October and entered at once upon duty. From the 10th to the 14th I was employed with others of your staff, under your personal direction,

in selecting positions and making dispositions of troops along the border and on the Blue, visiting for that purpose Wyandotte, Kansas City, Independence, and Hickman Mills. At this point General Curtis directed General Blunt, with the brigades of Colonel Moonlight and Colonel Jennison, to move eastward until he found the enemy, and to learn the exact position and line of march which had hitherto, from all information obtainable from any quarter, been but mere conjecture, with instructions to harass and impede him in every possible manner, at the same time ordering me to accompany the expedition, while he returned to Wyandotte to superintend the further organization of his army. Acting upon the information received of the capture of Sedalia by the enemy, and supposing him marching upon Warrensburg, General Blunt moved in that direction, leaving Hickman Mills after dark, and making a march of thirty miles the night of the 15th, to Pleasant Hill. Between Pleasant Hill and Holden we met 200 or 300 Missouri militia falling back from Warrensburg, who joined our force and were engaged in the further operations of our detachment. At Holden, receiving definite information that the column which had destroyed Sedalia had moved north toward Lexington, General Blunt at once determined to move direct to Lexington, with the hope of reaching it in advance of the enemy, with a view of saving the Government property. Arriving here we found the town evacuated by our troops, who had taken away the greater part of the public property, and the bushwhackers, under Poole, in possession of the place. Colonel Moonlight was ordered to charge, which he did gallantly, driving out the enemy, killing and wounding some and taking several prisoners.

General Blunt established headquarters in the town, and made such disposition of his force as would best defend the several approaches to the place, and awaited the approach of the enemy, whose advance was then but a few miles distant. At 1 p. m. of the 19th the head of Price's column struck our force under Colonel Jennison on the Waverly road. Colonel Moonlight was ordered to move at once to the scene of action, General Blunt and myself preceding him. The two brigades, then consolidated, were disposed across the road from Lexington to Independence. By the stubborn fighting and skillful management of the troops, General Blunt held the enemy for five hours, falling back slowly at night down the Kansas City road, not, however, until almost surrounded and enveloped by the vastly superior number of Price's advancing columns, which pursued us closely for seven miles to the Little Blue. On the morning of the 20th we took up a position on the north bank of the Little Blue, determined to dispute the passage of that stream with all our force, while I was dispatched to General Curtis, then at Independence, to inform him of the position of affairs. I found General Curtis at Independence, having formed his forces on the Big Blue, and being engaged in fortifying the fords on this stream, determined to make his final stand on that line. He then ordered all of General Blunt's force back to this position, except Colonel Moonlight's brigade, which was left with orders to burn the bridge and delay the enemy as long as possible at the Little Blue. About 9 o'clock on the morning of the 21st information reached us that the efforts to burn the bridge on the Little Blue had failed, that the enemy were forcing the passage of the river, and were engaging Colonel Moonlight; Colonel Jennison's brigade and Colonel Ford's brigade, including McLain's battery, were at once ordered forward under General Blunt, General Curtis following quickly after and superintending movements on the field. The engagement here was severe and desperate, the troops fighting with courage and

dauntlessness creditable to veterans. The commanding general, assisted by General Blunt, who seemed everywhere present, the bravest of the brave, was constantly under fire, directing movements, and inspiring by his own example his greatly inferior force, till flanked and threatened with annihilation, he fell back from ridge to ridge, fighting at Independence until dark, when he crossed the Big Blue, establishing headquarters for the night on the north bank, on the road leading to Kansas City, the enemy meanwhile going into camp at Independence.

On the morning of the 22d the enemy commenced demonstrations at the different fords along the stream, but was stubbornly resisted at all points. His superior numbers, however, enabled him at length to force a crossing at Byram's Ford, but his advance was sharply resisted back to the vicinity of Westport, when, night coming on, our main force was withdrawn to Kansas City and placed in line of battle, leaving a sufficient force in the neighborhood of Westport for observation. During the night we learned from prisoners and other sources that Price with his entire army, estimated at 35,000 men, was upon us, intent upon the capture of Kansas City and Leavenworth, and the devastation of our State, and that Pleasonton, with his cavalry, was close at hand. At daylight all the troops were moved forward to Westport, and put in line of battle, where Colonel Moonlight and a portion of the militia were engaging the enemy. The fight soon opened along the whole line, and while unabated, the welcome sound of General Pleasonton's artillery was heard thundering in the rear of the enemy, which was soon followed by a courier from General Pleasonton himself confirming our hopes and reassuring us of present help. Immediately on receipt of this intelligence General Curtis ordered a charge along the whole line, in which all participated, from commanding general to soldier, the volunteers and militia charging with great impetuosity mid cheers and shouts. The enemy, at first resisting with desperate determination, soon began to waver, gave way slowly and doggedly, but at length, broken by the resistlessness of our troops, and terror-stricken from the sound of artillery in their rear, turned their faces southward and fled precipitately. The enemy beaten, disheartened, and flying, the pursuit was taken up, General Blunt's division in front, and was continued for fifteen miles to Little Santa Fé, when night ended the day's operations. During the pursuit, about ten miles from the battle-field of the morning, Generals Curtis, Pleasonton, and Blunt met for the first time at the farm-house of Mr. Thomas, and the plan for pursuit was freely discussed. General Pleasonton was desirous to make a detour to the left by the way of Harrisonville. General Curtis insisted on massing the command and pushing the pursuit, which was finally agreed upon. The following morning the pursuit was resumed by the combined force of Curtis and Pleasonton, except McNeil's brigade, which came up during the march, General Blunt still in the advance, General Curtis having assumed command of the whole force.

At West Point, the pursuit still continuing, the order of march was changed, owing to the exhaustion of General Blunt's men, and that portion which had fought at Lexington not having tasted food for days, and General Pleasonton's division was placed in the advance, General Blunt having meanwhile detached Colonel Moonlight's brigade to operate on the right and for the protection of Olathe, Paola, Mound City, and Fort Scott, on the Kansas border. In this order the march was continued during the night to the Trading Post, where our column came up with the enemy about 1 o'clock in the morning. He at once took up his flight, leaving behind him wagons, provisions, and plunder

of every description, and was hotly pursued by our advance to Mine Run, where he made a stand, and was beaten with the loss of one piece of artillery. At the Osage he made another stand, and was again beaten, losing seven guns and many prisoners, among whom were Marmaduke and Cabell.

At Charlot, near Fort Scott, he was again beaten. At this point General Pleasonton, deeming rest and sleep necessary to his command, withdrew to Fort Scott (against the earnest protest of General Curtis, who sternly insisted upon camping on the trail of the retreating foe), and from there returned to Saint Louis. On the following morning General Curtis resumed the pursuit, and at night camped at Shanghai, and the next day, the 27th, his force reached Rouse's Point about 2 p. m., where, being relieved from further duty, I left the army and returned home.

The foregoing is a brief résumé of what I saw and participated in during these eventful days.

I cannot close this report without expressing the thanks of the people of Kansas for the gallant defense made of our State. Devastation, ruin, and rapine threatened our border towns; an insolent and hopeful foe had placed himself, almost without interruption, within a day's march of our chief city; his avowed purpose was to sack and burn wherever he touched our soil. He was met, checked, beaten back, and finally put to rout by the skill and energy of the commanding general, and the indomitable, persistent, and dogged fighting of volunteers and militia. It would be impossible to mention particular instances of meritorious conduct, where all did so well, without seeming injustice to some, and I therefore reluctantly refrain from doing so. The States of the great Northwest, whose troops participated in this brief but important campaign, have added another to the long list of brilliant achievements won by them during the war. To the militia of my own State, who sprang to arms with the alacrity of other days, at the approach of the foe, I will be permitted to tender special thanks. Going out without the hope of fee or reward, some have fallen, others have been maimed for life, while all have testified their devotion to the common cause, and their love for our gallant young State; to one and all of these let us be ever grateful.

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. LANE.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 79.

Report of Hon. Samuel C. Pomeroy, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 3, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report, in obedience to general field orders, dated Camp Arkansas, November 8, 1864, that on the 16th day of October, 1864, I tendered my services as volunteer aide-de-camp on the staff of Major-General Curtis, commanding the Army of the Border, and was accepted and appointed by him. The work of bringing forward the militia of Kansas and of organizing them for a vigorous defense of the State was then going on. I rendered what assistance I could from day to day, and on Tuesday, October 18, went to Hick-

man Mills, Mo., to inspect and report upon the number and condition of the troops stationed there. Upon my return on Wednesday, the 19th, and according with the recommendation, General Curtis ordered the release of General Fishback (who had been under arrest by order of General Blunt) and directed him to report to his command. I then proceeded to the regiments from Atchison County, encamped near Wyandotte, and persuaded them, in obedience to orders from the commanding general, to cross the State line and proceed to the front, then in the border of Missouri. Colonel Treat's regiment, Kansas Twelfth, moved to Independence, and on Friday night Colonel Quigg's regiment marched to the Little Blue and were placed under General Deitzler, on the extreme left of our line. Then early Saturday morning, October 22, I aided in bringing forward other regiments, until by 10 o'clock all our militia on the line near to Wyandotte had advanced to the front, and a guard was placed at the bridge over the Kansas River that none could return. During this day (the 22d) I witnessed the fight a little south of Westport, and from the results of that day suggested the necessity of placing a line of pickets up the Kaw River to give notice at headquarters of any attempt on the part of the enemy to cross the Kaw River and attack the city of Leavenworth; and in obedience to orders I spent part of the night and nearly all of the next day in guarding the fords of the Kansas River, and used for that purpose in addition to the troops on the line of the river one company of Delaware Indians that I found in camp near to Pratt's Mission, numbering 140 men. On the evening of the 23d (Sabbath) I returned to the State line near Westport and found the enemy completely routed and the commanding general and all our cavalry in close pursuit. I followed on Monday morning until I saw that the rebels were running away from Kansas and our State was safe. I spent the time then in taking care of the wounded and burying the dead, after which I sent in to headquarters my resignation and returned home.

I cannot close without expressing my entire approbation of the manner and spirit in which General Curtis conducted the defense of my State, and even admiration for the gallantry and courage with which he met and pursued the rebels, and the kindness I received and the good conduct manifested by all the regular members of his staff will live in my memory as among the most pleasing recollections of those most trying and eventful days. Kansas and the country must rejoice that there were brave soldiers on that day to fight, and that there was a Major-General Curtis to plan and to lead.

I have the honor to be, with sentiments of the highest esteem, very truly, &c.,

S. C. POMEROY.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 80.

Report of Maj. Gen. James G. Blunt, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, Army of the Border.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SOUTH KANSAS,
Paola, December 24, 1864.

For the information of the major-general commanding the department I have the honor to submit the following report of the part

taken by the First Division of the Army of the Border in the recent campaign against the rebel army under command of General Sterling Price:

On my arrival at Fort Leavenworth from the District of Upper Arkansas, on the 9th of October, I was directed to proceed to Olathe and report from that place by telegraph for orders. Arriving there on the morning of the 10th, I was assigned, by orders from department headquarters, to the command of the District of South Kansas, to relieve Major-General Sykes, and immediately assumed command by telegraph, with headquarters at Paola and in the field, and proceeded at once to put the small force in my district in condition for active service. At 1 a. m. of the 13th I received a telegram from the commanding general to move with all my mounted force and artillery to Hickman Mills, Mo. At daylight I marched with all the force immediately at hand, consisting of the Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, detachments of the Fifth and Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, First Colorado Battery, and a portion of the Fifth and Tenth Regiments of Kansas State Militia (mounted), and arrived at Hickman Mills at 11 a. m. of the 14th. On the following day (the 15th of October) the Fifteenth Kansas, battalion of Third Wisconsin Cavalry, detachment of Fourteenth Kansas, Sixth Regiment Kansas State Militia, and right section of Second Kansas Battery, under the command of Colonels Jennison and Blair, who had been directed to join me by forced marches, reported to me in camp at Hickman Mills. The force was then organized as follows: First Brigade, commanded by Col. C. R. Jennison, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, consisting of the Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, battalion Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and four 12-pounder mountain howitzers; Second Brigade, commanded by Col. Thomas Moonlight, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, to consist of the Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, detachments of the Fifth and Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, and four 12-pounder mountain howitzers; the Third Brigade, commanded by Col. C. W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, comprising the Fifth, Sixth, and Tenth Regiments Kansas State Militia, First Colorado Battery, and right section of Second Kansas Battery, and detachment of Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, Brigadier General Fishback to have the immediate command of the State Militia, reporting to Colonel Blair. Early on the morning of the 16th General Fishback, of the militia, and Col. J. D. Snoddy, of the Sixth Regiment State Militia, refused to recognize my authority to command the militia force and ordered them to return to Kansas. The matter was promptly disposed of by placing General Fishback and Colonel Snoddy in close arrest for disobedience of orders and mutinous conduct in the face of the enemy. The Sixth Regiment was directed to choose another colonel, which resulted in the selection of the veteran soldier, Col. James Montgomery, under whose leadership the regiment did gallant service, and no further conflict of authority occurred between myself and the militia during the remainder of the campaign, and in this connection I desire to do justice to the militia here referred to, the Fifth, Sixth, and Tenth Regiments, by stating the fact that none others, except the two officers alluded to as placed in arrest, either officers or soldiers, evinced any other disposition than to do their whole duty and move against the enemy in Missouri or elsewhere that he could be found. Nor could I attach so much criminality to the acts of Brigadier-General Fishback and Colonel Snoddy, especially of the former, and inflict upon them the summary punishment prescribed by the rules of war, viz, death, as would have been the case had

I not known that they were the instruments selected by the Executive of Kansas and others, their superiors in the militia organization, to carry out their mischievous and disgraceful designs.

At 4 p. m. of the 16th I was ordered to move with all my mounted men of the volunteer force to Pleasant Hill. I marched at 7 o'clock the same evening with the First and Second Brigades, comprising a total of about 2,000 men, and eight 12-pounder mountain howitzers, arriving at Pleasant Hill at 1 a. m. of the 17th, halted until daylight, and then moved east on the Warrensburg road. After marching about ten miles met a squad of Missouri militia and Union citizens, of Warrensburg, who reported to me that on the 15th the rebel General Shelby had captured the town and garrison at Sedalia, and that his advance was moving into Warrensburg when they evacuated the place. I directed the militia to turn back, and the command proceeded to Holden, arriving there at 11 a. m. Halting at this point I sent Major Foster, of the Seventh Enrolled Missouri Militia, with a party of scouts and telegraph operator, to Warrensburg to make a reconnaissance. At 5 o'clock that evening Major Foster reported to me by telegraph that no enemy had been in Warrensburg, but that after the capture of Sedalia General Shelby's force had rejoined Price's main command near the Missouri River below Waverly. Upon learning, from what I considered reliable authority, that Brigadier-General Sanborn, in command of the cavalry of General Rosecrans' department, was at or near Dunksburg, and that General A. J. Smith's divisions of infantry and artillery were within supporting distance, I sent couriers to General Sanborn with dispatches notifying him of my position and movements, and urging upon him the propriety of uniting our forces and promptly commencing an offensive movement against Price. With the view to carrying out this plan I telegraphed to the commanding general, requesting him to send forward to my support, on the Independence and Lexington road, the brigade of Colonel Blair and the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry and Second Colorado Cavalry, and at 7 p. m. marched for Lexington, at which place my advance, under Colonel Moonlight, arrived at 10 a. m. of the 18th. The place had been evacuated by the Federal forces for several days, and was occupied by no force of the enemy, except a small party of guerrillas, several of whom were killed and captured by my advance.

Upon occupying Lexington I obtained reliable information that the advance of Price's army, under Shelby, was at Waverly; that Price was calling in all detachments sent out for recruiting and other purposes and was concentrating his forces to meet an expected attack from the forces of General Rosecrans. On the 19th, at 11 a. m., while I was momentarily expecting the arrival of re-enforcements I had requested to be sent to join me at Lexington, and also to receive an answer to my dispatch to General Sanborn, a courier arrived with dispatches from the general commanding informing me that in consequence of the embarrassments thrown in his way by the Governor of Kansas and others relative to moving the militia out of the State, no re-enforcements could be sent to me. At the same time it was reported to me that my pickets were attacked and were being driven in by the enemy, who were advancing in force in three columns. The pickets were re-enforced and instructed to resist the enemy's advance, while the command was immediately put in position in line of battle southeast of the city, facing a section of open and undulating country, with cultivated fields extending from one to two miles in our front, with the Independence road in our rear, upon which I designed to fall back whenever it became necessary. As the enemy moved steadily up and

massed his force in my front, I became well convinced that the whole of Price's army was present, and with the small force of my command I determined not to bring on a general engagement, but to develop his force and movements and accomplish the object of a reconnaissance. An irregular firing upon the skirmish lines of the contending forces, with occasional artillery firing, was kept up for nearly two hours, when their long-range guns opened a brisk fire in my front, to which my short-range howitzers could not reply with effect, and being pressed by an overwhelming force, with an attempt to flank me on the right and left, I directed the command to withdraw and fall back on the Independence road. This movement was accomplished in good order, the Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, under the immediate command of Colonel Moonlight, covering the retreat in a gallant manner. The last position occupied by the rear guard with four mountain howitzers was held until dark and until the small command was almost entirely enveloped by the superior numbers of the enemy, when, under cover of the night, we moved by easy marches in the direction of Independence, having in the operation of the day punished our adversary severely, but what was of greater importance, developed his position, strength, and movements, the first instance in which it had been done since he had crossed the Arkansas River on his raid into Missouri.

At 9 a. m. of the 20th I reached the crossing of the Little Blue, nine miles east of Independence, and finding a strong natural position for defense on the west side of that stream I halted my command and camped in line of battle, sending to Independence for rations, and requesting the general commanding to send forward to me the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, Second Colorado Cavalry, and First Colorado Battery. In response to my application for re-enforcements with the view of making a stand at the Little Blue I was ordered by the general commanding to leave four squadrons at that point as an outpost and move with the remainder of my command to Independence, assigning as a reason that in consequence of the action of the Governor of Kansas and others of the State authorities he was unable to move the State militia any farther into Missouri. In pursuance of these instructions, I left Colonel Moonlight, with the Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, with instructions to burn the bridge across the Blue if the enemy advanced in force, and to make such resistance as he could, until I could be notified. Early on the morning of the 21st I was directed to move with all the volunteer force back to the Little Blue, and just as the command had commenced to move I received a dispatch from Colonel Moonlight informing me that the enemy were advancing in force; that he had burned the bridge, and was engaging their advance. The command was now pressed forward as rapidly as possible, but on arriving upon the field I found that the small force under Colonel Moonlight, although making a stubborn resistance, had been forced back by superior numbers, and we had lost the strong position on the west side of the Little Blue, before alluded to, and where I had hoped to have held Price in check until General Rosecrans' forces came up on his rear, had circumstances have permitted me to remain there, as I had suggested the day previous. As soon as the troops could be got into position, a gallant attempt was made to push back the enemy and retake the ground we had lost, when their line was driven back nearly a mile, but the vastly superior numbers of the enemy enabling them to push forward heavy flanking columns on my right and left, compelled me to fall back in the direction of Independence. The retreat was conducted in perfect order, every foot of ground being stubbornly con-

tested, and the troops exhibiting a degree of coolness in the face of an overwhelming enemy seldom equaled. The fighting lasted nearly six hours, the enemy's fire ceasing about 4 p. m., when he refused to advance against my last line of battle formed on the east side of Independence. At 5 o'clock the command moved in column to the main camp of the militia on the Big Blue, where defensive works had been constructed, arriving there about 8 p. m.

The Fourth Brigade, under command of Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry, consisting of the Second Colorado Cavalry, Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, and First Colorado Battery, which had been detached from the Third Brigade by order of the commanding general, reported to me for orders on the morning of the battle of the Little Blue and participated in all the operations of the day, and to Colonel Ford and his command is due great credit for their coolness and gallantry. To Col. Thomas Moonlight and the Eleventh Kansas Cavalry for their gallantry displayed in resisting the advance of the enemy on the morning of the 21st until re enforcements arrived, as also their gallant conduct in covering the retreat at Lexington on the 19th, special commendation is due, nor can I omit to make special mention of Maj. R. H. Hunt, of the staff of the commanding general, for the gallant service he rendered with the howitzer battery of the general's escort. Early on the morning of the 22d I directed the First Brigade, under Colonel Jennison, to proceed up the Big Blue, a distance of four miles, to Byram's Ford to defend the crossing at that point, and for the same purpose sent the Second Brigade, under Colonel Moonlight, to Hinkle's Ford, about two miles above the main crossing. At about 9 a. m. a small force of the enemy advanced on the main road from Independence to Kansas City, which proved to be only a feint to divert attention from the movement on our right flank in the direction of Byram's Ford. At 1 o'clock I heard artillery firing on my extreme right, from which I inferred that Colonel Jennison's command had been attacked, and immediately dispatched a courier to Colonel Moonlight to re-enforce him with the Second Brigade, but before Colonel Moonlight had time to arrive on the ground Colonel Jennison was forced to retire and the enemy had flanked our position on the Big Blue, and was crossing that stream in force. The First and Second Brigades kept upon their flank, and when near the State line attacked the right of their column, turned his flank, and punished him quite severely, the fighting continuing until dark. Finding the position of our army on the Big Blue flanked by the enemy, and in the absence of superior authority, I directed Major-General Deitzler, in command of the Kansas State Militia, to withdraw his command to Kansas City, and dispatched orders to Colonels Jennison, Moonlight, and Ford to remain with their commands in front of the enemy in the vicinity of Westport.

All of the night of the 22d was occupied in getting ammunition and subsistence to my command, with the view of commencing the attack upon the enemy at daylight the following morning. Daylight on the morning of the 23d revealed the enemy in force on the open prairie directly south of Westport and about two miles distant. Col. C. W. Blair's brigade of State militia was ordered out from Kansas City at 3 a. m., and at daylight my whole command was in motion, moving in column through Westport and across Brush Creek, and soon after sunrise the First, Second, and Fourth Brigades were deployed into line of battle on the south side of the timber skirting Brush Creek, where Shelby's division, of Price's army, was advancing upon my line. Skirmishers were thrown forward and the engagement with small-arms and

artillery soon became general. My advance line being hard pressed I ordered Col. C. W. Blair to advance with the Sixth and Tenth Regiments State Militia, to support the right of my line and guard my right flank, which order was executed with great promptness. Time being required to get the militia arriving from Kansas City dismounted and in position, and the contest in front being severe and unequal, I directed my advance line to fall back to the north side of Brush Creek. The enemy advanced a short distance, but did not attempt to attack my second line, with the exception of a small force that approached through the timber to attack my left flank. This force was promptly repulsed by the Fifth and Nineteenth Regiments of State Militia, under Colonels Colton and Hogan. The militia having all arrived on the field I ordered a general advance of my entire line, which was promptly executed. The engagement now became earnest and spirited, the artillery of my division being served with excellent effect, punishing the enemy severely. At 12 o'clock the center of their line gave way, and what then commenced as a retreat of the rebel forces soon became a complete rout, their broken lines flying in disorder, with my cavalry and artillery in rapid pursuit. After the rout and pursuit had continued for nearly two miles, I came in sight of the forces of General Pleasonton on my left, with his lines formed at right angle with mine, and a portion of Price's command, which he had been engaging during the day, was still confronting him. When within about 800 yards of the left of the rebel line, and when they were about to charge General Pleasonton's line, twenty pieces of artillery of my command poured a raking fire into their flank, which threw them into confusion and stampeded them, with the main column of the retreating enemy. The cavalry of my division continued to press closely upon their rear until dark, followed by the cavalry of General Pleasonton's command. The Second Brigade bivouacked on the night of the 23d at Aubrey, while the remainder of the division halted at Little Santa Fé.

I directed Colonel Moonlight to move on the morning of the 24th on the flank of the enemy to protect the border of Kansas from raiding parties that might be detached from Price's main column, and with the remainder of the division, in pursuance of orders, moved on the Line road, on the trail of the retreating rebels. At 6 p. m. reached West Point, when it became evident that the enemy had gone in the direction of Fort Scott, and being near four miles in advance of General Pleasonton's command, I halted, to enable him to close up. The garrison at Fort Scott being weak, and a large amount of public property endangered, I dispatched a courier to Colonel Moonlight to pass around the enemy's flank with his command during the night and proceed to that post for its protection. At 8 o'clock my scouts that I had sent to ascertain the position of the enemy reported to me that he was encamped at the Trading Post at the crossing of the Osage, and soon after I was ordered to let General Pleasonton's command take the advance, and in this order the march was continued until near midnight, when the rear guard of the enemy was overtaken. In the battle of the 25th my command, excepting three squadrons of the Second Colorado Cavalry, was prevented from taking part in consequence of the order of march being changed the night previous. One brigade of Pleasonton's division occupying the ford at the Osage I was unable to effect a crossing until late in the day. At dark on the evening of that day I came up with the brigade of General McNeil, of General Pleasonton's division, which was at a halt on the prairie about three miles northeast from Fort Scott. General McNeil, with his brigade, had just repulsed

the enemy in their last attempt to make a stand, and they had retreated under cover of the night to the timber of the Marmiton. I there learned that General Pleasonton, with the remainder of his command, had marched to Fort Scott. My command needing subsistence and forage I made a detour to the right, passing through Fort Scott for the purpose of supplying them and be in readiness to follow the pursuit the next morning.

Early on the morning of the 26th, in pursuance of orders, I marched with the First, Second, and Fourth Brigades of my division in pursuit of the retreating enemy, striking his trail near Shanghai, Barton County, Mo. Moving by way of Lamar, Carthage, and Granby, I came up with the enemy at Newtonia at 2 p. m. of the 28th. The rebel forces had encamped in the timber south of the town, on the Pineville road, with the view of remaining there until the following day, thinking that the pursuit of our forces had been abandoned, but on discovering my advance coming in view on the high ground overlooking the town of Newtonia from the northwest, they hastily broke camp and attempted to move off. To cover this movement they deployed a force of about 2,000 men upon the prairie to protect their rear. Being convinced of their intention to avoid a fight, if possible, I determined to attack them at once. The First and Fourth Brigades were with me in the advance. I had directed the Second Brigade to halt early in the day to procure forage for their horses to enable me to put them in the advance to press the pursuit at night; consequently I did not rely upon them to participate in the early part of the engagement. I had supposed that General McNeil's brigade, of General Pleasonton's division, was close up in my rear, and sent back to hurry it forward, while the First and Fourth Brigades of the First Division were quickly deployed in line, and under the cover of the fire of the First Colorado Battery, posted upon the bluff, they swept across the plain at a gallop until within musket-range of the enemy's line. Skirmishers were rapidly deployed, and but a few moments elapsed until the engagement became general. I now ordered forward the First Colorado Battery, which, with a section of howitzers attached to the Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, and under command of Sergeant Patterson, of the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, poured a destructive fire into the enemy's ranks. It soon became evident that I was engaging all the available force of Price's army, which outnumbered me more than eight to one. Their superiority of numbers enabling them to press upon my flanks with a large force compelled me to fall back about 500 yards from my first line, which was done in good order, and the line reformed in the face of a terrific fire. The enemy pressed forward their center, but were promptly checked by the canister from the First Colorado Battery. It was now near sundown, and my command had been engaged near two hours and their ammunition nearly exhausted, while a large force of the enemy were passing under cover of a corn-field around my left flank, and my force being too small to extend my line in that direction, I was about to direct my line to fall back and take position on the bluff, when very unexpectedly the brigade of General Sanborn, of General Pleasonton's command, came up. I immediately placed them in position on my left, directing General Sanborn to dismount his men and advance through the corn field, which was promptly executed, repulsing the flanking column of the enemy, who now abandoned the field and retreated rapidly under cover of the night in the direction of Pineville, leaving their dead and wounded in our hands. In this engagement (battle of Newtonia) the disparity in numbers made the contest unequal, and the fighting on

the part of my command was the most heroic that I ever witnessed. Near one-eighth of my force engaged were killed and wounded, while the enemy's loss was at least three times greater than ours. To Colonel Ford, commanding Fourth Brigade of the First Division, and Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, commanding First Brigade (in the absence of Colonel Jennison), great credit is due for their coolness and courage and the excellent manner in which they handled their troops on the field. Also among those coming under my personal observation as deserving of special mention for their gallantry were Maj. James Ketner, of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, Capt. W. D. McLain, of First Colorado Battery, Capt. J. B. Pond, commanding battalion Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and Sergt. George Patterson, of the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding section of howitzers.

Having cared for my command, and in pursuance of orders my command was in readiness to move again at 3 a. m. of the 29th in pursuit of the retreating enemy, when I was notified by the general commanding that in consequence of General Rosecrans withdrawing all the troops belonging to his department the pursuit would here be abandoned. The division moved during the day to Neosho, when orders were received at 1 a. m. of the 30th to resume the pursuit. Two days' march was here lost when close upon the rear of the enemy in consequence of the order of General Rosecrans withdrawing his troops. Nothing worthy of special note occurred during the march to Pea Ridge, Fayetteville, Cane Hill, and thence to the Arkansas River, where, after one of the most extraordinary marches we arrived at 11 a. m. of November 8, and about three hours after the crossing of Price's army. At this point the Army of the Border being disbanded, the First Division returned to their own department in detachments to enable them the better to procure forage and subsistence.

During this brief but eventful campaign the troops of my command evinced the greatest degree of heroism and endured all the hardships and privations without murmur or complaint. Many acts of personal gallantry occurred which will be appropriately noticed in reports of subordinate commanders, but I cannot omit, among others already noticed, to mention the name of Lieut. Col. Samuel Walker, of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, as deserving of special commendation for distinguished gallantry. To the Kansas State Militia I desire to express my thanks for the promptness with which they rallied to the call of the general commanding the department and for the valuable assistance which they rendered me during the campaign. The Fifth, Sixth, and Tenth Regiments of State Militia, respectively commanded by Colonels Colton, Montgomery, and Pennock, were the only part of the State forces over which I assumed command. They were organized into a brigade under the command of Col. C. W. Blair, of the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, and their operations a portion of the time came under my personal observation, and it is but justice to say that their conduct was uniformly that of the true soldier and patriot, and worthy of emulation by their commander-in-chief and other superiors in the militia organization.

To Colonel Blair too much praise cannot be accorded for his distinguished gallantry as commander of the Third Brigade and also for his participation in the battles of Mine Creek and the Osage, on the 25th of October, as a volunteer aide on the staff of Major-General Curtis, while his command was detained at the crossing of the Osage and unable to get to the front. Other regiments of the State militia reported to me at Westport on the morning of the battle of the 23d,

and although not regularly assigned, received orders from me during the day, among which I desire to call special attention as having taken part in the operations of the day and discharging their duty nobly were the Nineteenth Regiment, commanded by Colonel Hogan, and the Twelfth Regiment, commanded by Colonel Treat. The Eleventh Regiment, commanded by Colonel Mitchell, which joined Colonel Moonlight's command at Coldwater Grove on the morning of the 24th, is deserving of credit for efficient service rendered in protecting the border from incursions of the enemy from that point to Fort Scott. To my assistant adjutant-general, Capt. George S. Hampton, I am greatly indebted for valuable services, he having upon all occasions acquitted himself as an efficient and gallant officer. Surg. S. B. Davis, my medical director, is deserving of great praise for his indefatigable labors in providing for the care and comfort of the wounded, not only of my own command, but also of the command of General Pleasonton, upon the battle-field and elsewhere. To Capt. B. F. Simpson, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, acting assistant quartermaster; Capt. R. J. Hinton, Second Kansas (colored), aide-de-camp, and Capt. George J. Clark, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, acting ordnance officer of my regular staff, and to Col. John T. Burris, late of the Tenth Kansas Volunteer Infantry; Maj. R. G. Ward, of the First Kansas (colored); Maj. Thomas H. Penney, late of the Thirty-fifth Missouri Volunteers; Capt. T. E. Milhoan, late of the Tenth Kansas Volunteers, and Capt. A. J. Shannon, provost-marshal, District of South Kansas, as volunteer aides, I am also greatly indebted for their valuable services during the campaign. I also desire to tender my thanks to Maj. T. I. McKenny and Maj. C. S. Charlot, of the staff of the commanding general, the former for valuable assistance he rendered me during the night of the 22d of October, preceding the battle of Westport, and the latter for gallant services as aide during the battle of Newtonia on the 28th of October. To Hon. James H. Lane, Col. W. F. Cloud, and Col. S. J. Crawford, of the volunteer staff of the general commanding, I am under many obligations for valuable services rendered on different occasions. I also desire to express my thanks to Company E, of the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanded by Lieut. W. B. Clark, acting as my escort, for their uniform soldierly conduct and their gallantry displayed at the battles of Westport and Newtonia.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. G. BLUNT,
Major-General.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Kansas.

ADDENDA.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. 1ST DIV., ARMY OF THE BORDER, *Camp on Arkansas River, Thirty miles west of Fort Smith, November 8, 1864.*

I. The pursuit of the rebel army under General Price having been abandoned, and the Army of the Border disbanded by direction of superior authority, the general commanding the First Division desires to express his thanks and admiration to the officers and soldiers of his command for their noble conduct and the gallantry displayed throughout one of the most memorable campaigns of the West.

On the 16th of October the brigades of Colonel Jennison and Colonel Moonlight, numbering in all but 2,000 men, marched from Hickman Mills, Mo., to Pleasant Hill, Holden, and Lexington, to make a reconnaissance and develop the position, force, and movements of the enemy.

On the 19th of October, at 11 a. m., we were attacked at Lexington by the enemy, 26,000 strong, and held the position until their entire army was developed, when our little force retired fighting and in good order, until the darkness of night put an end to the contest.

Thus we were enabled to give the first reliable information of Price's force and movements that was known since he had crossed the Arkansas River on his route into Missouri.

On the 21st the brigades of Colonels Jennison, Ford, and Moonlight, numbering only 3,500 men, fought the battle of the Little Blue, contesting stubbornly every foot of ground with an enemy five to one against them, with the most glorious results. In this contest the Second Brigade, under Colonel Moonlight, is entitled to special commendation for the gallant manner in which they fought the enemy's advancing columns until re-enforcements arrived.

On the 22d the brigades of Colonels Jennison and Moonlight stubbornly contested the advance of the enemy at the crossing of the Big Blue; and at the State line (after the enemy had forced a passage at Byram's Ford) checked his right flank, and punished him severely.

Thus by striking the enemy in front, and by three days' severe fighting, he was firmly held in check until the command of Major-General Pleasonton was enabled to overtake and attack his rear at Independence, and co-operate with us in obtaining the glorious results of the battle of Westport, on the 23d, when the entire division (including Col. C. W. Blair's brigade of Kansas State Militia) attacked the enemy's front, and after a severe conflict turned his right flank, which resulted in his complete defeat and rout.

In this day's contest credit is due to several regiments of Kansas State Militia for the gallant part they bore, which will be appropriately noticed in official reports.

In the battles of the Osage, on the 25th (excepting Companies G, I, and K, Second Colorado Cavalry Volunteers, commanded by Captains Greene, Kingsbury, and Elmer), you were prevented from participating as you desired, because, by the orders of superior officers, the advance was taken from you, after earning and obtaining it by hard fighting; but we cannot but admire the conspicuous courage displayed on that day by our comrades in arms of General Pleasonton's division, who did their duty so gallantly.

In this day's operations credit is due to the Second Brigade, under Colonel Moonlight (who was directed, after the battle of Westport, to move on the right flank of the enemy), for the protection given to the border of Kansas, and especially Mound City, where they fought and defeated a superior rebel force and saved the town from destruction.

At the battle of Newtonia, on the 28th ultimo (participated in by the brigades of Colonels Jennison and Ford), where you fought and defeated a force ten times your number, a courage and heroism was displayed unparalleled in the history of the war.

To recapitulate: In twenty-three days you have marched over 500 miles, day and night, through rain and snow, and fought five battles with an enemy greatly your superior in numbers. You have suffered fatigue, hunger, and every privation incidental to a soldier's life. The result of your heroic labors (in conjunction with your comrades of the Army of Missouri) is the complete defeat and rout of a

formidable rebel army, pursuing them across the Arkansas River, disorganized and reduced to a mob, and the saving of Kansas from premeditated invasion and devastation. For this you are entitled to and will receive the plaudits of a grateful country. While we drop the tear of sympathy over the graves of comrades who fell by our sides, we will ever remember that their death was a noble sacrifice for their country.

II. The First Brigade, commanded by Colonel Jennison, is authorized to inscribe upon their banners, Lexington, Little Blue, Big Blue, Westport, and Newtonia.

The Second Brigade, commanded by Colonel Moonlight, Lexington, Little Blue, Big Blue, Westport, and Mound City.

The Third Brigade, Kansas State Militia, commanded by Colonel Blair, the Nineteenth Regiment Kansas State Militia, commanded by Colonel Hogan, and the Twelfth Regiment Kansas State Militia, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Woodworth, Westport.

The Fourth Brigade, commanded by Colonel Ford, Little Blue, Westport, and Newtonia: Companies G, I, and K, Second Colorado Cavalry Volunteers, will inscribe Osage on their guidons.

JAMES G. BLUNT,
Major-General.

No. 81.

Report of Col. Charles R. Jennison, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding First Brigade.

HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 1ST DIV., ARMY OF THE BORDER,
Fort Scott, November 23, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of operations of the First Brigade, First Division, Army of the Border, during the campaign recently closed:

The brigade was organized at Hickman Mills, Mo., on the 15th of October, 1864, in pursuance of General Field Orders, No. 2, dated headquarters First Division, Army of the Border, in the field, Hickman Mills, Mo., October 15, 1864, and consisted of the Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, commanded by Lieut. Col. G. H. Hoyt, a detachment of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, commanded by Captain Carpenter, and five mountain howitzers, manned by details from the Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, Third Wisconsin and Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, the battery being in charge of First Lieut. John Murphy, Company B, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, who was, however, afterward relieved, and the howitzers placed in charge of Second Lieut. H. L. Barker, Company G, Fifteenth, as an officer more experienced in artillery drill and practice; a selection fully justified by after events in the various actions in which the battery was engaged. On the 16th of October the brigade, in pursuance of orders from division headquarters, marched from Hickman Mills to Pleasant Hill, Mo., and from thence in the direction of Warrensburg, Mo. At Pleasant Hill, however, Company A, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, was detached by order of the general commanding to repair the telegraph line between that point and Lexington. When a short distance east of Pleasant Hill, the direction of the line of march was changed toward Lexington, upon which point a large rebel force was reported advancing. On the 18th of October, after

a toilsome march of three days and nights, the brigade reached Lexington, going into camp near the Fair-Grounds south of the city, where it remained for the remainder of the day and the night subsequent, no intelligence reaching us in regard to the movements of the enemy beyond casual reports of the presence of guerrillas in the vicinity, and the assurance that a small detachment had temporarily occupied the town the day previous, procuring supplies, and executing the conscript laws of the so-styled Confederate States. On the 19th of October, however, about 11 a. m., intelligence was indirectly received at headquarters that the enemy was advancing in considerable force in two columns, by the Dover road, and also from Sedalia. This report was almost immediately corroborated by the arrival of scouts, and by messengers dispatched from the outpost east and southeast. Upon this intelligence the brigade was instantly formed in the road running through the camp, and immediately south of the Fair-Grounds, strong scouting parties being detached to ascertain as far as possible the numbers and exact direction of the rebel advance. Learning that the enemy would perhaps make a direct attack upon the city from the Camden road a portion of the brigade, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, was dispatched in that direction to resist the expected attack, the troops and artillery being advantageously posted in the streets. These were, however, soon ordered back to their original positions near the Fair-Grounds, where the entire brigade, [with the] exception of Companies E and F, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, was formed in line of battle under direction of the major-general commanding. A detachment of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, under Lieut. J. B. Pond, sent out to reconnoiter the Holden road south, having been recalled, the First Brigade on the right of the line, Company F, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanded by Capt. O. A. Curtis, pushed forward in advance of our lines, accompanied by one piece of the howitzer battery, under Lieut. J. Murphy, Company B, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, and Company E, in command of Lieut. J. T. Smith, Captain Johnson of that company being detailed as officer of the day. Deploying a small skirmish line, Captain Curtis soon met the advance guard of the enemy, estimated at 400 strong, when a spirited contest was commenced with small-arms, the single howitzer being used occasionally with excellent effect.

Soon after the fight opened Captain Johnson, Company E, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, in discharge of his duties as inspector of the outposts, arrived upon the field, and assumed direction of the two companies engaged, exhibiting at the outset qualities of coolness, ability, and daring, which have been commented upon to his favor by officers and men engaged. At this point the very unequal contest was maintained for a considerable period, until our lines were formed in the rear, in the position selected by the major-general commanding, and after the detachments sent to the city and out on the Holden road were recalled. The advance of the enemy was here, for a time, effectually checked, and he was several times repulsed, but by re-enforcements from his main column, and bringing rifled ordnance into action, he was enabled to overcome the feeble barrier interposed by the advance of our army, which was compelled to fall back upon the main line of battle. The enemy's strength having by this time fully developed, and the superior caliber of his artillery but too plainly apparent, the First Brigade, in obedience to orders from the major-general commanding, fell back upon a cross-road leading to the main highway from Lexington to Independence, it being by this time nearly dark. Companies G, F, and E, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, were detached as

skirmishers to protect the rear until the entire command was safe beyond successful pursuit, a duty which was performed to the entire satisfaction of the commanding officer, and greatly to the credit of officers and soldiers of the companies mentioned. The retrograde movement was conducted with the utmost good order, notwithstanding the difficulties of the road, and the darkness of the night, during which nothing of importance was abandoned, and officers and men discharged their duties with as much equanimity as though there were not an army of 30,000 pursuing closely upon their rear. An accident, to the credit of Lieutenant Murphy, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, and Sergeant Patterson, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, attached to the battery, may be mentioned here. Owing to the darkness of the night and the inequalities of the road, an accident occurred by which the limber of one of the howitzers was broken, and before it could be repaired the entire column had passed. Lieutenant Murphy and Sergeant Patterson, however, remained with the piece, and succeeded in bringing it off in the very face of the enemy's pursuing columns. No other accident occurred during the march, and the brigade halted when about one mile east of the Little Blue, the pursuit having been temporarily given over by the enemy. The next morning the brigade crossed the Blue, four companies being temporarily left at the bridge, in charge of Maj. John M. Laing, while the remainder proceeded some two or three miles west, and again halted, awaiting further movements on the part of the enemy. In the afternoon it marched to Independence, taking quarters for the night in the vacant buildings of the city.

On the 21st of October, the enemy having advanced from Lexington, met the Second Brigade at the Little Blue at an early hour in the morning. The First Brigade was, therefore, ordered to the front, and immediately proceeded from Independence to the field, where it arrived at about 11 a. m., taking position on the right, Colonel Ford's brigade forming the center, and Colonel Moonlight's the left. In this engagement the Fifteenth Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, and the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, Lieutenant Pond, were dismounted and disposed in advantageous positions, which had hardly been accomplished when the lines were fiercely assailed by the enemy at all points and the contest became extremely spirited, though from the nature of the ground and the protection of the timber the casualties were not heavy. For some hours the engagement was maintained with varying results, our lines alternately falling back and advancing, the howitzer battery being actively and apparently effectively engaged until it became evident that the enemy was numerically superior to such an extent that it would be impossible to hold the ground, and a retrograde movement was commenced in the direction of Independence. In this action, the first general one in which it had been engaged, the First Brigade gave evidence of great proficiency in drill, unhesitating obedience, and displayed throughout a courage and determination worthy of any veteran corps. In this connection I deem it my duty to mention favorably and particularly the conduct of Maj. J. M. Laing, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, who, by his coolness and assured courage, did so much toward inspiriting the men of my command, not one of whom wavered for a moment or evinced a disposition to evade the perilous duties of the situation. Other officers, perhaps equally deserving, will be mentioned hereafter, but as Major Laing in this action came immediately under my notice he is first spoken of as a brave, efficient, and deserving officer, one of whom the regiment and the service may be proud. Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, as commanding the Fifteenth Regiment, is too

well known to need especial eulogium in this instance. Let it suffice that he commanded his troops with the cool daring and soldierly ability so characteristic of the man, in no manner disappointing the anticipations of those who know him best. Early in the action Lieut. W. H. Bisbee, Company E, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, acting adjutant of the Fifteenth Regiment, was struck in the shoulder by a ball, temporarily losing the use of his left arm, but remained upon the field in the discharge of his duties throughout the engagement, although several times requested to retire. Falling back through Independence the First Brigade, with those of Colonels Ford and Moonlight, encamped on the night of the 21st on the west side of the Big Blue, on the Kansas City and Independence road, no further demonstrations being made by the enemy.

On the morning of the 22d I was ordered with the brigade to Byram's Crossing of the Big Blue, some eight miles from its encampment of the night previous. Arriving there we were joined by a detachment of Kansas State Militia, of Colonel [McCain's?] command, which rendered valuable assistance in obstructing the ford of the river by felling timber, &c. About 11 a. m. the enemy's advance made its appearance at the ford, attacking our outposts and attempting to force a crossing. The ford was so effectually obstructed, however, and in its condition wholly impassable for artillery, that for some hours little progress was made, the attacking party being repulsed each time it appeared in the front, which was defended by a strong skirmish line, securely posted, and one section of howitzer battery then in charge of Second Lieut. H. L. Barker, Company G, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, to whom the command was transferred on the morning of the battle of Little Blue. At this point the First Brigade held the enemy effectually in check, notwithstanding his great superiority of numbers, until about 3 p. m., when it became evident that he had succeeded in crossing considerable bodies, both above and below, and was rapidly flanking us both on the right and left. Upon this intelligence (word of which was sent to the general commanding with the additional report that the main body of the rebels was apparently in front and determined to effect a crossing at Byram's Ford) it was determined to retire in the direction of Westport or Kansas City, toward which it was evident the efforts of the enemy were directed. Our lines at the ford having been forced back, the rebels succeeded in crossing a considerable force of dismounted cavalry, a portion of which was employed in removing obstructions in the river, while the others were deployed on either side of the road, and advanced toward us. Then, with a strong body of rebels pressing upon our rear and in constant expectation that our flanks would be attacked, the brigade commenced to retreat toward Westport, contesting every foot of ground until the enemy gave over the action and retired to the ford. Reaching the open ground some four or five miles between Westport and the State line, a large body of troops was discovered on our left advancing in a northerly direction from the timber of the Blue.

Upon reaching the Line road we were joined by Colonel Moonlight's command, when the First and Second Brigades were rapidly pushed forward upon the prairie to resist the advance of the enemy under Shelby, who had evidently crossed at the ford four miles above Byram's. Skirmishers were immediately deployed from both brigades, and in a few minutes the action was commenced along the entire line, entirely with small-arms. A body of Kansas State Militia coming up soon after, it was formed in line of battle immediately in rear of First Bri-

gade, when the rebels, being closely pressed by our skirmish lines, wavered for a moment, and then began to give ground. Upon this a general advance of the First Brigade was ordered, and the lines were rapidly advanced toward the enemy, who, after a slight resistance, fell back in confusion to the cover of the timber some two or three miles distant, closely followed by our forces, until, as the sun went down, not a vestige of the rebel Shelby's division beyond its dead and a few wounded was to be seen upon the field. Maintaining our lines for some time with no further demonstrations from the recent exultant and confident enemy our columns were turned toward Westport, which we reached about 7 o'clock in the evening, going into camp between that place and Kansas City, where the Army of the Border was mostly concentrated, and as the night wore on we seemed encircled by the campfires of the rebels, which gleamed menacingly from the woods, as if mocking the anxiety which prevailed throughout our lines. But as the darkest hour is said to be just before day, so the darkness of that night foreshadowed the dawn of final victory, and the relief of Kansas from apprehension of rebel invasion.

On the morning of the 23d the brigade was under arms at daylight, and after having supplied itself with ammunition from the train sent out from Kansas City, retraced its march of the previous evening, coming upon the rebel lines about three miles from the town, where it assumed position as the center of the line, with the brigades of Colonels Ford and Moonlight on the flanks. The First Brigade was deployed on the right of the road, in a large field traversed by rail and stone fences, which to some extent impeded active cavalry operations, though affording excellent protection to dismounted troops. Our skirmish lines were immediately formed and had advanced but a few rods when severe and incessant fire of small-arms was commenced upon them and replied to with the utmost spirit, the enemy commencing almost instantly to fall back. Our lines were then advanced some distance, a rapid fire being kept up from either side, until the rebels, having received a re-enforcement, made a desperate stand and succeeded in temporarily pressing us back beyond our original position, and to the edge of a small body of timber skirting the wood upon which the Second Colorado, with the Colorado Independent Battery, was posted. At this point the fighting became again severe, and a second time we were compelled to retire, a movement participated in by the entire division; the First Brigade, however, forming the right of the new line about 200 yards in rear of its first position, the Second Brigade having left the field. At this point a desultory fire was kept up for some time, the rebels making no positive demonstrations, our lines being re-enforced by the militia under Colonel Blair. At length, however, the enemy pressed forward, and succeeded in planting one section of a Parrott battery on the Line road, rendering our position one of extreme danger, his lines being heavily re-enforced at the same time. Leaving the position we fell back on the Line road almost to suburbs of Westport, where the army was reorganizing and concentrating for a final effort, and soon the order was received for a general advance along the entire line, which was obeyed with the utmost alacrity. The First Brigade, with a detachment of the Second Colorado and McLain's (Colorado) battery, took position on the right of the road, commencing an impetuous attack upon the rebels, who were rallying for a charge upon the battery, one section of which was posted directly in the road. Hardly had we taken position when the enemy charged in column upon the guns up the road, which were supported by the Second Colorado, the First Brigade being

to the right in front as they advanced, Company E, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, forming the left of the brigade line and deployed as skirmishers. Seeing that a desperate effort was required to save the battery I immediately rallied Company E and led in person a charge upon the flank of the rebel column, a movement which was entirely successful, though a desperate hand-to-hand contest ensued, after maintaining which for a short time the enemy withdrew in disorder toward his main lines southward. In this action especial praise is due to officers and men engaged, and more particularly to Capt. Curtis Johnson, commanding Company E, Fifteenth, which was alone in the charge. During the actions Captain Greene, commanding the squadrons of the Second Colorado, brought his troops to our assistance, by which we succeeded in killing and wounding a large number of the rebels, and taking nearly 100 prisoners. In the charge Company E sustained a loss of 13 men wounded. To Captain Johnson I would express the highest sense of his excellence and soldierly ability in one of the most trying situations of that day. In this action Captain Johnson personally encountered Colonel McGhee, of an Arkansas regiment, both firing with revolvers, the result of which was that Colonel McGhee was killed, the captain receiving a ball in the arm, which inflicted a very severe and painful wound, from which he has not yet recovered. The enemy having fallen back upon the road, our lines were reformed and again advanced through the fields on the right of the road, driving the rebels at all points. Directly in the road, at the summit of a slight slope, a body of the enemy seemed determined to make a stand, when I was ordered by General Blunt to charge the hill with his body guard and one squadron of the Second Colorado—all of the troops available at that instant. Drawing sabers and forming columns of fours the squadrons dashed with reckless courage up the hill into the very midst of the rebels, who, not waiting to ascertain our strength, and hardly making a show of fighting, broke and fled, some into the timber on the left, but a majority down the road. A detachment was then dismounted and deployed along a stone fence skirting the woods and a spirited fire opened on the rebels in the woods to the left, but these soon made their way out and joined the main rebel body about a mile distant, where the enemy's lines were yet unbroken and upon which at this period a section of McLain's battery, under Lieutenant Eayre, was brought to bear with telling effect. Generals Curtis and Blunt having reached the scene in person I was directed to charge the rebel lines with the First Brigade on the right and left of the road, under cover of a heavy fire from the Colorado battery, which was worked with rapidity and the utmost precision by Captain McLain and his lieutenants. Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, with six squadrons of the Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, was directed to advance on the left, while, with one company of the Fifteenth, the Third Wisconsin detachment, two companies of the Second Colorado, and General Blunt's body guard, I took the right. The brigade thus formed advanced, charging the rebel lines with an impetuosity that overcame opposition. The enemy then, confused and demoralized, broke and fled, scattering arms and equipments along the route, and covering the ground with the debris of a routed army. For more than a mile the brigade pursued, never drawing rein, while the rebels, too demoralized to attempt a halt, seemed each determined to save himself as best he might. In this charge, one of the most glorious in its results during the war, and perhaps performed with less loss to the attacking party, acts of individual daring might be mentioned deserving special commendation.

The conduct of Lieutenant Colonel Hoyt, in particular, upon this occasion, as indeed throughout the campaign, was such as to elicit the highest encomiums from all, and deserves to be recorded as worthy of particular emulation. The First Brigade, in advance of the pursuing column, maintained its position during the remainder of the day, coming up with the enemy below Little Santa Fé and skirmishing with his rear until dark. During the pursuit I was accompanied by Major McKenny, of Major-General Curtis' staff, who is entitled to special mention for assistance rendered here and elsewhere, as well as for his assured and courageous bearing upon the field. Early upon the following morning, having encamped near Little Santa Fé, the pursuit was resumed, but the First Brigade being in rear did not again encounter the enemy. We passed the station known as Trading Post, Linn County, Kans., on the morning of the 25th, and learning that General Pleasonton's command was engaged in a running fight with the enemy some few miles in the advance, pressed forward to the front, but reached Mine Creek too late to participate in the battle at that point, the rebels having continued their retreat southward, leaving several general officers and a large number of prisoners, artillery, &c., in our hands. Evidences of the total demoralization of the retiring army were visible on every hand. Hundreds of muskets, horse equipments, disabled wagons, &c., encumbered the field, while the number of dead and wounded abandoned by the enemy gave proof that his rout was again complete. Early on the morning of the 26th the brigade reached Fort Scott, at which it was compelled to halt for a short time in order to procure supplies, then entirely exhausted, as all rations were carried by the troops upon their horses.

Leaving Fort Scott about 11 a. m. on the 26th, we reached Shanghai, Mo., the same night and encamped, having passed General Pleasonton's command during the day. Leaving this point, the brigade took up a line of march southward, through Barton and Jasper Counties, Mo., reaching Carthage early on the morning of the 27th, and going into camp some five miles south of the town, the brigade having then the extreme front of the pursuing column, and being only a few miles behind the rear guard of the enemy. Indeed so closely was he pressed that one squadron of his cavalry retreated only upon the appearance of our advance at the point designated as our encampment. The rebel army was then only four or five miles before us, his rear having passed about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Here we met a number of paroled prisoners of the Kansas State Militia who had been released during the afternoon, after having been stripped of their clothing, shoes, &c., and robbed of anything valuable about their persons. These were compelled to walk barefoot and almost naked twelve miles until they reached the advance of our lines, where they were as well cared for as our circumstances would permit. On the morning of the 28th the march was resumed, the brigade being then under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, passing the Granby Lead Mines, Newton County, about 2 p. m., the Colorado Second being in the advance with the Colorado battery. When within about three miles of Newtonia messengers passed along the lines from the front with intelligence that our advance had overtaken the rebel army at the latter place, and was then engaged. The command "forward," "trot," "gallop," "march," was given, and never with more hearty alacrity obeyed, and the brigade swept on through almost impenetrable clouds of dust to the open ground north of the town, where our artillery was already posted, and had opened fire with shell upon the enemy's lines, then distant more than a mile,

and evidently striving to get into the timber. Reaching the crest of the hill upon which the battery was posted, the order was given, and the First Brigade moved rapidly toward the enemy, by this time engaged by Colonel Ford's brigade. The First Brigade was immediately formed by direction of the general commanding on the right of the line, commencing a spirited and determined fire at a range of about 500 yards, the howitzers, under Sergeant Patterson, doing more efficient execution than at any previous action during the campaign. In this connection I would mention with particular recommendations to favor Sergeant Patterson, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, an experienced and capable artillerist of long service in the Army of the Potomac and elsewhere. During the whole campaign he remained in the faithful discharge of his duties as sergeant of the howitzer battery, which fired the first gun at Lexington and almost the last at Newtonia.

For further details of the battle permit me to extract from the report of Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, as follows, he being in command of the First Brigade by reason of temporary disability of myself caused by accident:

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH KANSAS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
In the Field, Cherokee Nation, November 9, 1864.

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On the 28th of October Price was attacked by General Blunt with the brigades of yourself and Colonel Ford (Second Colorado Cavalry) at Newtonia, Mo. In this engagement it was my privilege to lead your brigade, of which I can only say, none could have fought more nobly or with more determination, standing under fire a long time without a cartridge to return the galling fire of the enemy, having expended sixty rounds to the man, the celerity of our movements rendering it impossible for the ammunition train to keep up. I desire to mention Lieut. Joseph Mackle, acting assistant adjutant-general, First Brigade, and Lieut. W. H. Bisbee, Company E, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, acting regimental adjutant, for their praiseworthy conduct in the last-named and, in fact, in all the engagements in which this regiment was employed. Of the officers of my command and their men it is not possible for me to specify particular names, for all were brave and none were cowardly or incompetent, maintaining its line of battle unbroken until some time after dark. The First Brigade, in obedience to orders from the general commanding, encamped for the night in the town of Newtonia, having brought in all its wounded, who were properly cared for and bestowed in the houses of the town.

On the morning of the 29th the brigade marched in pursuance of orders to Neosho, twelve miles distant northwest, where it remained until the forenoon of the 30th, from thence retracing its march of the previous day to Newtonia, and encamping south of the battle-ground of the 28th. On the 31st, orders having been received to continue the pursuit of Price, we marched that day to Cassville, encamping between that post and Keetsville, and some three or four miles from the latter place. November 1 the march was resumed on the Fayetteville road, over the battle-fields of Cross Hollows and Pea Ridge, the brigade arriving at Fayetteville November 3 [4], about 11 a. m., a few hours after the attack on that post had been abandoned by General Fagan with his division of the rebel army. On the morning of 4th [5th] of November the brigade resumed its line of march southward, encamping that night at Prairie Grove, the scene of former victory by our troops under our present gallant general of division, and whose triumphs were participated in by many now component parts of the First Brigade. On the 5th [6th] we passed Cane Hill, another battle-field of a previous year, continuing the march night and day with such alacrity as the condition of our animals would admit until the forenoon of the 8th of November, when we stood upon the banks of the Arkansas River, near Webber's Falls, only a few hours after the rear of the late triumphant and jubi-

lant rebel army had passed over, with only one or two pieces of artillery remaining of the three complete batteries with which it entered Missouri, and its numbers reduced by 10,000 since the rout at Westport. In this camp, November 8, was received the order of the general commanding dissolving the Army of the Border, and attaching to the First Brigade for the homeward march the Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, First Colorado and Ninth Wisconsin Batteries, with nearly the entire transportation of the army, and in pursuance of which order the brigade on the morning of the 9th took up its return line of march, proceeding very slowly, however, on account of the nature of the roads, rendered almost impassable by frequent rains experienced for several days previous and continuing after our arrival at the river. From the difficulty of procuring forage, and the total exhaustion of rations, the march northward was necessarily very much retarded, it requiring eight days to reach Fayetteville, which post we reached on the 16th of November. But before proceeding farther it became my most painful duty to record the loss of two of the most efficient and faithful officers of my command, Capt. Orloff Norton, Company L, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, and First Lieut. Emmett Goss, Company M, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, who were undoubtedly murdered while in charge of foraging parties in the vicinity of Cane Hill on the 12th of November, as all search for them has proven fruitless, and when last heard from they were closely pursued by a large force of guerrillas said to be under command of Lieutenant Tucks, C. S. Army. Always faithful in the discharge of their duties, never hesitating in the execution of any order however hazardous, Captain Norton and Lieutenant Goss had endeared themselves to the entire command by their uniform kindness and affability toward all. Their loss is one which can be illy sustained by the regiment, and their memory will ever be cherished by all whose good fortune it was to be associated with them. On the same day (12th) First Lieut. J. T. Smith, commanding Company E, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, in charge of another party, was attacked by an overwhelming force of bushwhackers, and in the fight which ensued Lieutenant Smith was very severely if not fatally wounded, he having been left in a critical situation at the hospital at Fayetteville, Ark. He was struck in the back and thigh, the former shot going through the body and coming out below the left breast. The latter was a severe and painful flesh wound. Lieutenant Smith will probably be permanently disabled for active service, if indeed he recovers from the effects of his wounds. I take pleasure, however, in mentioning him here as one of the most deserving officers of the Fifteenth Regiment, and one whose determined bearing throughout the several actions in which the brigade was engaged entitles him to the highest praise. Leaving Fayetteville we continued our march northward through Keetsville and Bentonville, Ark., and Sarcoxie and Lamar, Mo., arriving at this post on Wednesday a. m., the 23d of November, 1864, having marched since leaving Hickman Mills, on the 16th day of October, about 1,200 miles, during the most inclement season of the year, without adequate transportation for supplies, subsisting mainly upon the country through which we passed. The loss in horses has been heavy owing to the want of proper care and forage, and the exposure to which they have been subjected, as well as the numberless killed or wounded in action, all of which loss will, of course, be properly accounted for in the various returns to the respective departments entitled to receive them. Government property of other kinds has been abandoned from the absolute impossibility of transportation, which will also be fully explained in the proper manner.

In conclusion permit me to extract briefly from the report of Lieut. J. B. Pond, commanding detachment of Third Wisconsin Cavalry from the 22d to the 30th of October, when his detachment was ordered to report to General Curtis at Neosho, Mo., for special service, Lieutenant Pond having by virtue of rank taken command of the detachment at Independence, Captain Carpenter being reported sick. The battalion consisted of portions of Companies A, Lieut. G. M. Ellis; C, Lieut. J. B. Pond; D, Lieutenant Crites; F, Lieut. E. M. Cooper, and M, Lieut. John M. Bernard, the two latter having remained at Fort Scott without authority when the brigade marched south, and without making any explanation whatever relative to their conduct. Lieutenant Bernard's temptation may have been great, as I have learned he was married during the absence of his command, a fact precluding the supposition of an illness sufficient to render him unable to discharge his military duties. Lieutenant Cooper has not, as I have learned, even this palliation for gross neglect of duty, which it might not be improper to characterize in more severe terms. How much more worthy the conduct of Lieutenant Dixon, Company M, of whom Lieutenant Pond thus speaks in his report of the battle of Little Blue:

> Here Lieutenant Dixon, Company M, fell severely if not fatally wounded in the head, while gallantly leading his command into the conflict. In this engagement Sergeant McMillan, a brave and efficient non-commissioned officer and soldier, was severely wounded. Other brave men in the same and other companies suffered in the engagement, but in the general exultation over a common victory the wounded seemed to forget their anguish and joined in the shout that told the battle won.

I can further corroborate the statements made in the report of Lieutenant Pond, that in his battalion—

> In the endurance of wearisome marches and continual fasting (being more than fifty consecutive hours without food, and nearly all of the time in the saddle after the severe conflicts terminating with the battle of Westport) officers and men exhibited the noblest characteristics of the good soldier.

Of the battle of Newtonia Lieutenant Pond reports that his command, reduced to thirty-four effective men, was placed on the left of the Second Colorado, and took part in the charge, led as at Westport by General Blunt in person, against an enemy so vastly superior that the audacity of the charge must have been as conspicuous as its valor.

> That we held our position until our ammunition was exhausted, and afterward until succor came, history will tell and truly; but how, seems a miracle.

In this contest Lieutenant Pond's command lost 4 men severely wounded and 11 horses killed. The lieutenant concludes his report as follows:

> It affords me pleasure in connection herewith to notice the conspicuous gallantry and heroism of Lieut. John Crites, Company D. His coolness and self-possession under the most terrific fire gave to his recruits the full assurance of veterans. He was the only commissioned officer of the battalion with me when we entered the battle of Newtonia.

I cannot close my report without more particular and favorable mention of Lieut. Joseph Mackle, acting assistant adjutant-general First Brigade, it affording me special pleasure to indorse the deserving notice of Lieutenant Colonel Hoyt in his report of the battle of Newtonia. In other actions which Lieutenant Mackle was immediately engaged with myself I am happy to state that his conduct has been that of the true and brave soldier throughout.

I transmit herewith a list* of known casualties in the different engage-

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 commissioned officer and 6 enlisted men killed, 3 commissioned officers and 80 men wounded, and 1 enlisted man missing.

ments as reported by commanding officers of the various regiments, companies, and detachments. Casualties among troops attached to the howitzer battery are reported with the company lists, except those of one section from Company E, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, in charge of Sergeant Patterson, Company A, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, who reports 4 men wounded, but fails to give their names. Sergeant Patterson also reports 3 horses killed and 4 disabled by shots. The sergeant makes favorable mention of Corpl. James Holmes, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, of his section.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. JENNISON,
Colonel Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry,
Comdg. First Brigade, First Division, Army of the Border.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Kansas.

No. 82.

Report of Col. Thomas Moonlight, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 1ST DIV., ARMY OF THE BORDER,
Paola, Kans., December 15, 1864.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command during the late campaign against the rebel General Sterling Price:

On the 15th of October, at Hickman Mills, Mo., the Second Brigade was organized as follows: The Eleventh Regiment Kansas Volunteer Cavalry; Companies L and M, Fifth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry; Companies A and D, Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. Four mountain howitzers were in the Eleventh, manned by Company E. On the 16th the brigade marched into Missouri, in company with the First Brigade (all under Major-General Blunt), in search of Price's army. After having gone in a southeasterly direction as far as Holden, Mo., on the Warrensburg road, our course was changed to Lexington, Mo., which was captured by the Second Brigade on the 18th. Company B, Eleventh, had the advance, and skirmished with some bushwhackers in the streets, killing and wounding several and capturing some prisoners. Our camp was formed near the college, and it fell to the lot of the Second Brigade to picket the road leading south, and on which Price was advancing. Captain Green, Company B, Eleventh, commanded the picket on the Warrensburg road, composed of his own company and Company A, Sixteenth. Captain Palmer, Company A, Eleventh, commanded the picket on the Dover road, composed of his own company and Company F, Eleventh. I am particular in mentioning these facts, because much credit is due these companies for maintaining their position and holding the rebel advance in check as long as they did. When, at the battle of Lexington, on the 19th, a retreat was ordered, the Second Brigade was in the advance and a portion of it dismounted, so that it fell to our lot to cover the retreat. To enable the division to move out it became necessary to face the enemy with every man and use every weapon. The howitzers here did good service, but on leaving the field the tongue of one of the pieces got broken, so that it was nec-

essary to lash the limber and piece to other pieces in order to save them, which was done in the very face of the enemy and under his fire. The enemy persistently followed us for several miles, and long after dark we were compelled to fight him on every piece of ground favorable for making a stand. The enemy outnumbered us more than ten to one, so that they were enabled to flank us, as well as press us in the rear, thereby making our position a warm one and giving us lively work. Every officer and soldier did well and nobly under the most trying of all positions. The retreat was continued all night until 2 next morning. On the same day the division took up position on the west bank of the Little Blue, eight miles from Independence, and in the afternoon the Second Brigade was left alone to watch the enemy, fight him at the crossing, and burn the bridge. It is proper to state here that the two companies of the Fifth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry were not with the brigade, as they had been left on the border of Kansas to watch the guerrillas, and when the balance of the division was withdrawn from the Little Blue the two companies of the Sixteenth also went, leaving me only ten companies of the Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. Company G of that regiment being escort for Major-General Curtis, and Company L, at Fort Riley, my force being reduced, and the stream being fordable at almost any point, it was no easy matter to hold an enemy so numerous and active, all being cavalry. Major Anderson, Eleventh, with two companies, had command of the bridge, which he set on fire and held until it was fairly burning, after which he fell back on the hill and joined the command, who then opened fire on the enemy. Captain Greer, with his company (I, Eleventh), had been stationed at a ford about one mile below the bridge, with instructions to hold the enemy as long as possible. He retired without firing a shot, but claims that it was not possible to do otherwise, as the enemy were crossing at all points.

Being thus menaced on all sides and the object for which I was left accomplished, the command slowly fell back about two miles, fighting. A favorable piece of ground here presenting itself, a new line of battle was formed on the left of the Independence road, and we slowly began to drive the enemy back over the ground again, dismounting every man for the purpose of shelter behind stone walls, fences, and houses, some of which were then held by the enemy, who, after a vigorous assault, were dislodged, thus affording us an advantage which accounts for the few killed and wounded on our side, compared with the enemy, who suffered terribly. The Eleventh Regiment here behaved like old veterans, and gave renewed proof of their fighting qualities, driving an enemy greatly their superior in numbers to the very ground occupied in the morning. By this time General Blunt had come up, and other troops were being thrown in on the right to my support. About 200 of the Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, of that regiment, reported to me and did splendid service on the left. Major Hunt, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, chief of artillery for Department of Kansas, reported about this time with some mountain howitzers, and rendered such service as only a brave and gallant officer can render. We thus held the enemy back for hours, a great portion of the time without any ammunition, supplying its place with lusty and defiant cheers. It became necessary to withdraw the command a short distance and take up a new position, as the enemy, ten to one, were flanking us in perfect safety. Shortly after gaining the new position I received orders to withdraw my men and mount. The first movement had to be accomplished in the very face of

the enemy, and giving up to them a line of stone walls rendered the movement a dangerous one, and had it not been for the command already referred to, under Colonel Waker, opening a flank fire by my directions, I question much if the retreat would not have been a fatal one; and yet it had to be done, as the ammunition train by some mistake was away in the rear, where I joined it, and supplied my command anew. By this time the entire command had fallen back, and the Second Brigade, as ordered, formed a new line of battle on the east side of Independence. About this time Captain Huntoon, with his company (H) of the Eleventh, joined the command. The captain had, by my order the day previous, been sent up Little Blue about four miles to guard a ford and check the enemy, which he did in his usual gallant style, never abandoning his position, although pressed, in a manner isolated, and knowing we were being driven back on his left. The covering of the retreat from this point was given the Second Brigade, and to Companies B and H was the work assigned, under my own supervision. The enemy was held for some time at bay. A skirmish was kept up in the streets of Independence and as far as the railroad bridge, when the enemy abandoned the pursuit; it was then dark. We arrived in camp on Big Blue about midnight, where the entire force was concentrated. Throughout the entire engagement on Little Blue I was ably assisted by the field officers of the Eleventh, viz, Lieutenant-Colonel Plumb, Majors Anderson and Ross (the latter had two horses shot under him), as also my adjutant, Lieutenant Taber, together with those already named of other regiments. The entire command behaved with the utmost coolness and gallantry, commanding officers of companies vieing with each other in the discharge of their duties. I regret to say that in this engagement Capt. N. P. Gregg, Company M, Eleventh, received a severe gunshot wound in the right arm which is likely to disable him for life. The captain is one of the best officers in the service and it is to be hoped that he will yet be spared for future fields of operations. At Big Blue, on the 23d [22d], the Second Brigade was ordered to hold Simmons' Ford, and report the movements of the enemy. None coming, and the First Brigade at Byram's Ford retreating, the Second Brigade in double-quick whipped around by Westport and met the enemy on the State line, checked his advance into Kansas, and by the setting of the sun drove him back over into Missouri. The fight continued until dark, after which the pursuit was abandoned, and my command moved up to Shawnee Mission, for the purpose of procuring forage and rations.

It is but just to say that the Second Brigade had been so actively engaged for several days that little or no rations had been obtained; yet all were eager for the fight, and determined that Price could only invade Kansas when the little band no longer existed. The battle of the Line, or Big Blue as it is called, was a very pretty one and satisfied my mind that the enemy's cavalry was no match for ours on the prairie. In this fight Company G, of the Eleventh, escort for General Curtis, joined my command on the occasion and participated in the fight, as also the howitzers mentioned as commanded by Major Hunt on Little Blue. A militia force, I think Johnson County, under Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson, was also present; another militia force camped with the brigade that night, but I have forgotten what regiment. Several prisoners were captured during the engagement and properly forwarded to the headquarters of Major-General Curtis.

Early on the morning of the 24th [23d] I received orders to supply my command with ammunition and rations and take the

right of the line of battle about to be formed a little south of Westport. This was promptly done, and in front of the Second Brigade the enemy were driven back for over a mile after a stubborn resistance. The command on the left had fallen back, so that I was not supported in that direction, allowing the enemy to come up on my flank and deliver a raking fire. To meet this fire and preserve order it was necessary to wheel two squadrons to the left, which was done in fine style by Companies A and I, Eleventh (Lieutenant Drew commanded Company I after the battle of Little Blue). My command fell back in good order, handsomely protected on the right flank by Lieutenant-Colonel Woodworth, Twelfth Kansas State Militia, who reported to me that morning with a part of the regiment. Colonel Woodworth is deserving of much praise for dashing on the enemy's flank of skirmishers in the manner in which he did. After falling back to Westport I received orders from General Blunt to pass around the right flank of the enemy and keep in between him and Kansas, which order was faithfully carried out, and while our forces from Westport were putting Price to rout the Second Brigade whipped in on the right flank in hot pursuit of that portion of the enemy invading Kansas. At Little Santa Fé my advance company (H, Eleventh, under Captain Huntoon) struck the rear of the enemy and drove him out of Kansas. This was gallantly done and saved that portion of the State from the flames. The command pushed on that night to Aubrey, where a few hours' rest was obtained, and forage procured. Early next morning we again marched for Coldwater Grove, where we struck the center of the enemy, skirmished awhile, and held him in check as long as possible. Seeing from the route the enemy was taking he must necessarily camp about the Trading Post and that Mound City was in danger of being destroyed I pushed on, marching all night, a distance of sixty-five miles; arrived there at 2 a. m. on the 25th. Early in the morning the enemy made his appearance but was quickly driven back and the town saved. About this time I received an order from General Blunt to make for Fort Scott and hold it at all hazards, so that no time was lost, after procuring some rations for my starving command, in striking for that place.

At Fort Lincoln the enemy had possession and disputed our passage. After vainly trying to dislodge him I moved off by the right flank, leaving a battalion to engage his attention until the command crossed the stream above. Arrived in Fort Scott about 4 p. m.; found the place in the most intense excitement. The same evening Generals Curtis and Blunt arrived, and the next morning we again started in pursuit. I would here state that near Coldwater Grove I was joined by the Lyon County Militia under Colonel Mitchell, who accompanied me all the way to Fort Scott, doing excellent service, performing the night march and bearing up under the many trials incident to a camp life with commendable fortitude. Nothing of importance occurred in the pursuit until the 28th, when General Blunt overtook the enemy at Newtonia, Mo., and drove him from his position. The Second Brigade was deprived of the pleasure of participating in this fight, as instructions had been received to await rations, then forty-eight hours due. At Newtonia, on the 29th, after returning from Neosho, the brigade was joined by Company L, Fifth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, Captain Young commanding, who was appointed acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence for the brigade, which position he still retains. Nothing of importance transpired during the balance of the pursuit via Cassville, Keetsville, Elkhorn, Bentonville, Elm Springs,

Fayetteville, Prairie Grove, Cane Hill, Dutchtown, and to the Arkansas River, half way between Forts Gibson and Smith. On November the 9th, after the pursuit had been abandoned and the division broken up, the Second Brigade marched for Fort Smith with Major-General Blunt. Remained at Fort Smith awaiting forage and rations until the 19th, when the march was taken up for this place. Arrived at Fort Gibson on the 23d, remained one day to feed hay, marched for Fort Scott. Met on the south bank of Neosho a large supply train going south. Staid with it one day, as reports had been received that the rebel Generals Cooper and Gano had crossed the Arkansas River for the purpose of capturing it. Sent out Major Ross with every horse able to walk to reconnoiter; found no enemy and returned. Marched the following day via the Catholic Mission for grazing purposes in the Neosho bottom. Arrived in Fort Scott December 7. Remained two days to recruit animals; arrived in Paola December 12, having been absent exactly two months. During one-half of this time not more than one-fourth forage could be obtained, so that with the continuous and rapid marches a very great many horses have been abandoned as well as a great many killed in battle.

In conclusion, I desire to call the attention of the department to the uniform gallantry and efficiency of the following-named officers, who came prominently under my immediate observation and who behaved themselves throughout the entire campaign in a manner worthy of special mention, viz, Lieutenant-Colonel Plumb and Majors Anderson and Ross, battalion commanders of the Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry; Surgeon Ainsworth and Assistant Surgeon Adams, Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, in charge of medical department, and Captain Young, Fifth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence from the time he joined the command. The campaign was an unusually severe one, marching day and night, with often little or no rations, yet every officer and soldier bore up under the difficulties and hardships without ever grumbling, ever prompt and obedient. To lieutenant and regimental adjutant* Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, my acting assistant adjutant-general. I am especially indebted for his zeal, activity, and vigilance, and I earnestly recommend him to the department for promotion in the adjutant-general's department. I cannot close without mentioning the following enlisted men to whom special praise is due for their services on the battle-fields as aides; I had none other, nor could I have had better, viz: Sergt. Maj. I. H. Isbell, Quartermaster Sergt. W. H. Cowan, Chief Bugler N. D. Horton, all of the Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. These non-commissioned officers well merit promotion. I had forgotten to mention that Lieut. W. F. Goble, Company L, Fifth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, served in the brigade from the beginning as battalion adjutant for Colonel Plumb and is reported by him as being an officer of uniform good conduct and high standing. The following is a list of casualties during the campaign.† Forty-five horses were killed and 272 abandoned.

T. MOONLIGHT,
Colonel Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, Commanding.

Capt. GEORGE S. HAMPTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*Ira I. Taber.

†Nominal list (omitted) shows 16 enlisted men killed, 2 commissioned officers and and 28 enlisted men wounded, and 4 enlisted men missing.

No. 83.

Reports of Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Scott, Kans., November 26, 1864.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I send you my official report of the part the "Tads" took in the recent invasion, or at least those under my command. It is addressed to Captain Hampton, of General Blunt's staff, which, I suppose, is *de rigeur*, as I was in the First Division. I have endeavored to make a plain, connected statement of the events, so far as my command was connected with them, and trust it may be satisfactory to you and the general. This militia command was an undesirable and laborious one, but I did the best I could with the material.

I am, major, with high respect, your most obedient servant,
CHAS. W. BLAIR.

FORT SCOTT, KANS., *November 25, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a report of my own participation and that of the troops under my command in the stirring events connected with the recent invasion of the Departments of Kansas and Missouri by the rebel army under General Price.

On the 13th of October, at 9 a. m., I received an order from Colonel Jennison, commanding the First Sub-District, to move with all the mounted troops of my command in the direction of Kansas City, leaving the dismounted men under a careful officer for the defense of the post. Accordingly I placed Captain Vittum, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, in command at Fort Scott, and at 3 p. m. took up my line of march with the following troops: Companies A, C, D, F, and M, Third Wisconsin Cavalry; Companies D, E, and L, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry; Company D, Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry; right section Second Kansas Battery, under Lieut. D. C. Knowles; four howitzers and an ordnance train, under Capt. George J. Clark, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, acting ordnance officer of the district, assisted in the command of the guns by Lieut. William B. Clark, Company E, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry; Lieutenant-Colonel Eves' battalion of Bourbon County militia, and Capt. John Wilson's company of independent cavalry scouts, the whole command numbering about 1,000 men. I stopped at Mound City four hours to rest and feed, and then pushed on to Paola, arriving there about 3 p. m. on the 14th, having accomplished a march of sixty miles in twenty-four hours. At this place I drew rations for ten days and at daylight next morning was en route for Hickman Mills, pursuant to orders received the night before, where I arrived about dark the same day. On my arrival I received Major-General Blunt's order brigading the troops of the First Division of the Army of the Border, and learned that all my volunteer troops, except the field artillery, were taken from me and assigned to other brigades, and I was placed in command of the Third Brigade, consisting of the following troops: Capt. W. D. McLain's (Colorado) battery, six guns; Lieut. D. C. Knowles' (Second Kansas) battery, two guns; Company E, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, Lieut. W. B. Clark; Captain Wilson's company of independent cavalry scouts; Lieutenant-Colonel Eves' battalion Bourbon County militia, and the Fifth,

Sixth, and Tenth Regiments Kansas State Militia. Brig. Gen. W. H. M. Fishback, of the State militia, had been in the immediate command of the three last-named regiments, but being indisposed, as he said, "to turn over his command to the regular military authorities in the field" (a phrase which I could not comprehend and doubt whether he did, either) he had disobeyed General Blunt's order and was consequently placed in arrest. Lieutenant-Colonel Snoddy, of the Sixth Regiment Kansas State Militia, was likewise arrested for similar disobedience of orders, and his regiment proceeded to the election of a new commanding officer, which resulted in the veteran Col. James Montgomery being chosen as its chief. These difficulties consumed all of the 16th and the most of the 17th and it was fully night before all my brigade had reported to me. On the evening of the 16th, at 7 p. m., General Blunt started with Jennison's and Moonlight's brigades, leaving me in charge of the camp to await orders from Major-General Curtis or himself. On taking command of the Fifth, Sixth, and Tenth Regiments Kansas State Militia, I found them without subsistence, but partially armed, and with little or no ammunition, the result, doubtless to some extent, of the hurry with which they left their homes, and the inexperience of many of the company officers in charge. Before I had the brigade equipped I received (on the morning of the 18th) an order from General Curtis to move toward Independence and to come by Westport to complete my supplies. At 8 a. m. I was on the march, and, passing through Westport, camped on the west side of the Big Blue, on the road from Kansas City to Independence. I spent the whole of the night and a portion of the next day in procuring subsistence, arms, blankets, and tents for the command. While engaged in this duty I was instructed by Major-General Curtis not to move camp until further orders from him.

On the morning of the 20th Lieutenant Robinson, chief engineer on the staff of the commanding general, arrived from the front with orders to fortify the line of the Big Blue, as General Curtis intended making his stand on that line. The 20th and 21st were spent in examining the country, felling trees, forming abatis, obstructing fords, and strengthening the defenses as much as possible. During the 21st the Fourth Regiment Kansas State Militia, Colonel McCain, and the Nineteenth, Colonel Hogan, reported to me, by order of Maj. Gen. G. W. Deitzler, Kansas State Militia, and were assigned to duty in my brigade. Captain Dodge's (Ninth Wisconsin) battery had also been assigned to my command in place of McLain's, taken to the front. In the evening of the 21st, all the troops having fallen back on this line, I established my command in its position of battle, where they supped, slept, and breakfasted next morning, their horses, together with all the transportation, having been sent back to Kansas City to avoid unnecessary incumbrances. My line of battle occupied a front of six miles, with one regiment (McCain's) still higher up at Byram's Ford, where the crossing was finally effected. Two hundred and fifty of Hogan's regiment held the cavalry ford at the mouth of the Blue, three miles from the main body of the regiment which formed my left. Next came the colored militia, and the Sixth Regiment, Colonel Montgomery. Dodge's (Ninth Wisconsin) battery and the colored battery occupied a fine artillery position in the center, cut out expressly for the occasion, supported on the right by Colonel Colton, Fifth Regiment Kansas State Militia, and Eves' (Bourbon County) battalion. At the ford two miles above was stationed Lieutenant Knowles' (Second Kansas) battery, supported by the Tenth Regiment Kansas State Militia, while still above, at Byram's Ford, was stationed Colonel McCain, Fourth Regiment Kansas State

Militia. To this point Jennison's brigade was ordered, and at 11 a. m. the sound of the guns showed that the battle had commenced on our right. The Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry and McLain's battery, which up to this time had been in my rear, were ordered off to the right to the support of Colonel Jennison. I remained in position until 4 p. m., when I received orders to fall back to Kansas City. As Colonel Hogan's regiment was leaving the line to bring up the rear of the brigade a rush was made upon him by a party of the enemy, who had been concealed in the brush to his front across the creek. They waded the creek, pushed through and over the abatis of fallen trees clear up to Hogan's line, where, after a short, sharp little skirmish, some twenty of them were taken prisoners and the rest driven off. It was after dark when we entered the intrenched lines of Kansas City, and whilst I was placing Colton's regiment and Eves' battalion in position behind the earth-works some officer, without my knowledge, carried off the residue of my brigade, and placed them so securely that I never found them until the next morning.

Reporting to General Blunt at the Gillis house, I received orders to be in readiness to march at 3 a. m., but it took the whole night to collect the horses of the brigade, which, by some blunder, had been sent across the Kaw, and, while in the discharge of this duty, I missed the chance of getting some hard bread for my men, a sort of grab game being played by the soldiers in its distribution. Colonel Montgomery got his regiment off promptly at the hour indicated, and by daylight I had the residue of the brigade under march for Westport, at which point I arrived shortly after the battle opened. Pursuant to General Blunt's orders I formed my brigade on the high ground south of Westport, overlooking a little creek, the southern acclivity of which was covered with a dense growth of timber and underbrush. After the line was formed and the artillery in position I dismounted the militia, leaving every sixth man to hold horses, and pushed them through the timber to the front, where I formed them behind a fence and in front and on the left of the Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt. Before us was an open field, on the other side of which was the enemy in considerable force and strongly posted behind a stone fence, which formed an admirable cover. We were partly protected by the edge of timber and a rail fence. Firing was kept up rapidly and heavily for half an hour, the enemy being held firmly in check, but I attempted no advance, as I did not know whether our flanks were clear or not. In a short time the Fifteenth retired, in obedience to orders, and very soon after I received an order through Col. S. J. Crawford, of the staff, to fall back to my first position. Accordingly I marched to the rear, through the timber, and formed immediately on the north bank of the creek without going clear back to my original position. During this the first introduction to fire of my militia I received invaluable assistance from Col. C. Willetts, my chief of staff; Capt. George J. Clark, ordnance officer, who, having supplied the whole army with ammunition, came forward to the front and volunteered his services on my staff, knowing I was scantily supplied with staff officers, and Lieut. L. J. Beam, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, my acting assistant adjutant-general. They all worked with cool intrepidity and self-possession, and by their manners and deportment gave steadiness and nerve to the men.

A rumor reaching me that the enemy was attempting to flank our position on the right, and fearing to wait for orders lest it might be accomplished I dispatched a messenger to General Blunt to inform

him of what I was doing, and hastily threw my line up into the dense timber on my right, twice its own length, and then pushed it steadily forward. At this time I received orders from Major-General Curtis to make the movement which I had already commenced. Thus reassured, I moved forward as rapidly as the thick undergrowth and broken ground would permit until I came to the edge of an open field and formed a junction with Colonel Hogan's regiment, which had been sent forward from a different direction. A heavy fire was here opened on us from a corn-field which stretched from our right front, and which seemed filled with skirmishers, and from a large brick house in an orchard just beyond, in which a party of sharpshooters was stationed. In a few minutes several of our men had fallen, and the fire was incessant and close. I immediately ordered the right of the brigade forward and drove the enemy from the corn-field and house, while the left of the line kept straight forward through a stubble-field on their flank. About half a mile to the front the cavalry and artillery came out the road on our left and we joined the line, relieving Jennison's cavalry from its position in support of McLain's battery. We then commenced driving the enemy steadily before us, and from then till his retreat became a rout it was as much as my dismounted men could do to keep up with the artillery. As soon as the heaviest of the action was over I sent details back to bring up the horses, and pushed forward with my dismounted men and artillery. Lieut. W. B. Clark's detachment of Company E, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, and Capt. John Wilson's company of independent cavalry scouts became detached from my brigade early in the morning and acted as body guard for Major-General Blunt, charging to the support of a howitzer which General Blunt and staff, with the gun detachment, were protecting with their pistols from a portion of the enemy who were endeavoring to capture it, and participating also in the gallant charge on the enemy's rear posted behind the stone wall at the mouth of the lane. In this last charge the detachment lost 6 horses and 2 men killed, besides having several men slightly wounded. I pushed on to Santa Fé, reaching there about sunset, and stopped to feed, getting the first forage my horses had eaten since we left the Blue. The men had eaten nothing for two days and were still without rations, their transportation being yet at Kansas City. I had three or four head of cattle hunted up and killed by Colonel Hogan's regiment (the Nineteenth Kansas State Militia), which were eaten without bread or salt. The residue of my brigade had nothing.

At daylight next morning (24th) we started and marched the whole day and far into the night, still fasting, when the head of the column (Major-General Pleasonton's division) went into camp at the Marais des Cygnes; my brigade brought up the rear of the column, and receiving no orders, stood by our horses' heads in the rain all night, or until the roar of artillery announced that the battle was begun. Most of my militia had fallen out in the terrible march of the day before from fatigue and want of food, leaving me only my batteries, the Sixth Regiment, Colonel Montgomery, and Eves' battalion, and being satisfied that there would be some heavy fighting at the front, before my brigade could cross the river, I hurried forward to see if my individual services could be of any avail. Leaving the brigade in charge of my adjutant, Lieut. L. J. Beam, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, I crossed the river on the skirmish line of General Pleasonton's division, and during the exciting events of the 25th acted as volunteer aide-de-camp on the staff of Major-General Curtis, rendering all the assistance I could to

the other members of his staff in hurrying forward troops and holding them steady under the terrific fire of the enemy. In this capacity I participated in all the battles of the 25th and was with the pursuit to Shanghai, Mo., from which point I was sent back to Fort Scott, to superintend the forwarding of supplies to the army in its continued pursuit of the enemy.

It has been impossible for me to obtain reports from my subordinate commanders, and I cannot, therefore, make a correct return of casualties. From the best information I can gather, the entire losses of the brigade killed, wounded, and prisoners, will not exceed 100, of which twenty-five were taken from Colonel McCain's regiment at one time. About forty horses were also lost. Among the severely wounded is Captain Aitken, of the Bourbon County battalion, who was shot through the thigh while gallantly leading his command in the action at Westport.

The officers, with a single exception, discharged their duty faithfully and well, while the men behaved much better than could have been expected considering their want of training and discipline. I desire to make special mention of Colonels Montgomery, Hogan, Colton, and Eves, Major Smith, of the Nineteenth, and Lieutenant-Colonel Morris and Major Wiley, of the Tenth Kansas State Militia, for gallantry and good conduct.

Col. C. Willets offered his services to me before starting from this place, and acted as chief of staff until after the battle of Westport, affording me much valuable assistance in that capacity. Finding him quite ill on our arrival at Santa Fé, I ordered him to Paola for rest and medical treatment, from which point he joined Colonel Moonlight's brigade on its march to this place.

The labors and services of Capt. George J. Clark, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, although acting ordnance officer of the Army of the Border, came more immediately under my personal observation than that of perhaps any other officer, and it affords me honorable pleasure to bear testimony to his untiring labors day and night in that behalf from the time he left until he returned to Fort Scott. All the time he could spare from this duty was given to me, and as a staff officer of my brigade he rendered great assistance, being cool and observant under fire and industrious and energetic in arranging troops. To Lieut. L. J. Beam, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, acting assistant adjutant-general, I am more indebted than to any other officer for labor, energy, and active forethought. Always at his post, and always at work, he is as brave in action as he is laborious in the office. Of clear head and sound judgment, skillful and thoughtful, thoroughly versed in the duties of his profession, and having his knowledge always at his command, he could discharge with dignity and distinction the duties of almost any position. Sergeant-Major Rebstein, Sergt. A. C. Greenleaf, and Orderly Dudley Van Valkenburg, of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, were transformed into staff officers from the necessities of the case, and discharged their various duties with alacrity, judgment, and skill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. W. BLAIR,
14th Kans. Cav., Comdg. 3d Brig., 1st Div., Army of the Border.

Capt. GEORGE S. HAMPTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, 1st Div., Army of the Border.

HDQRS. SUB-DISTRICT NO. 2, SOUTH KANSAS,
Fort Scott, Kans., January 1, 1865.

SIR: As volunteer aide-de-camp on your staff, I have the honor to transmit herewith, according to your direction, a brief report of events of the 25th of October last, all of which I saw and part of which I was.

On the march of the night before from West Point down, my brigade occupied the rear of the column, and when the column halted, and no word was sent to the rear to bivouac, I supposed that the advance had come to the timber of the Marais des Cygnes, and was clearing the obstructions which all thought the enemy would create to oppose our forward movement. Accordingly, we waited patiently, standing by our horses' heads, without fire, food, or forage. Toward morning, becoming chilled by the rain and cold night air, I mounted my horse, and, accompanied by an orderly, rode forward in search of fire. About midway up the column I found a fire, and had scarcely succeeded in warming my benumbed limbs when the sound of artillery called my attention to the front. I immediately started forward, and as soon as it was light enough to distinguish objects, I saw by the broken and slippery condition of the roads that it was impossible for the rear to get over the river till a late hour in the morning, and, sending my orderly back with directions to Lieutenant Beam, my assistant adjutant-general, to keep the brigade closed up to the main column, I hurried to the front to see if I could be of any service in some other capacity. At the same time, if a general battle was imminent in which all our troops would be engaged, I would have the advantage of observing the ground before the arrival of my force, and be ready to take command of them in action. Ascending the high mound overlooking the stream, I saw the skirmish line about midway from its base to the timber pushing steadily to the front. I immediately started forward to overtake them, having been joined in the meantime by Sergeant-Major Rebstein, of my brigade, and just as I entered the timber I was met by Maj. R. H. Hunt, chief of artillery on your staff, who announced that there was neither enemy nor obstructions on the north bank of the river. Pushing forward, I joined the skirmishers just as they received the fire of the enemy's skirmish line on the south bank. The skirmish line here waited till the advance regiment came up, which, I think, was the First [Second?] Arkansas Cavalry. With it came also Col. S. J. Crawford, of your volunteer staff, and Capt. R. J. Hinton, aide-de-camp, serving on the staff of Major-General Blunt. On crossing the river we found, to our surprise, no obstructions, save two trees which had been felled in the road, and which were rapidly removed by the advancing troops.

Emerging from the timber, I observed a body of men about half a mile distant on our left flank, drawn up in line in front of a farm fence. Some discussion arose as to whether this was the enemy or a portion of our own troops who might have crossed below the main ford. I informed the officer who seemed to be in command that I was satisfied there was no ford so close below the main one, and called his attention to the further fact that the line displayed no guidons—a sure sign in my estimation that they were the enemy. The question was settled by the charge being sounded, and, half way to the enemy's line, we flushed his skirmishers, concealed in the high grass, under the brow of a gentle declivity, who fired a hasty volley and retreated on the main line, which moved off by the left flank at full speed, our flying squadrons in rapid pursuit. This line of battle was formed facing the

west, and about one mile and a half farther on another line was formed facing the north, strengthened by two rifled guns and one small smooth-bore, the right of the line resting on a skirt of timber which ran up a small ravine from the main river, and the left on a knoll, on the summit of which was a log cabin. Here the artillery played pretty fiercely, but they fired mostly with solid shot, seeming to reserve their shell as if it were scarce, although the screaming of the shell through the air was by no means unfrequent. At this point (Colonel Crawford and Captain Hinton still being with me) I sent Sergeant-Major Rebstein back with instructions to find the officer in charge of the first artillery, and request him to hurry forward with his guns. Finding that the artillery did not arrive as soon as we hoped, and fearing the enemy would not stand much longer, we undertook conjointly to bring about a charge in the hope of capturing the guns. The regiment that had first crossed the river (the Second Arkansas, I think) advanced gallantly to the charge on our right, but was not promptly supported by the regiment on our left, which was a Missouri militia regiment, and consequently were compelled to forego the design. At this time Major Hunt came to the front, and galloped up to the commanding officer of the Arkansas regiment, and told him that the "general expected him to capture those guns." "I would have done so five minutes ago, sir, if I had been properly supported," was the reply. "I will see that you are supported," said the major, and turned off to bring up the regiment on the left. As it came up on line both regiments charged in gallant style, other troops coming close on their rear, and the enemy broke to the rear before coming to close quarters, leaving their small guns on the field, which we took, but the delay enabled them by rapidly limbering to the rear to save their Parrott guns, which were the prizes we really aimed at.

After a short delay and moving on some distance, we saw another line of battle formed upon a high eminence, apparently about two miles off, but as we approached it, after firing a few shots from their rifled guns, they moved off rapidly again to the rear. I here fell in with Major Weed, of your staff, and Surgeon Walgamott, and we advanced in front of the left of our line. On an eminence in rear of where their last line of battle was formed, we came across an abandoned wagon, the first I had seen since the burning ones just south of their camp. Finding a lot of books, letters, and papers of various kinds in the wagon, we stopped a few minutes to make a hasty examination of the contents, and on resuming our forward movement I observed that the brigade on our right was some distance past us, although we were still in the advance of the one on our end of the line. Arriving on the table-land, which forms the summit level between the Marais des Cygnes and Osage, we again saw the enemy's line, and this time it was evident he was in full force, although his whole line was not visible, his right being behind the brow of the hill which descended into Mine Creek. Meanwhile the gallant brigade on our right was steadily advancing, with skirmishers well out, though brought to a check, apparently unsupported, in the face of this overwhelming force. The artillery was playing with great rapidity and considerable effect. I looked at the enemy's line, close, serried, and vomiting fire; I looked at the dauntless little brigade which was unflinching and steadfast in its front, and then turned to the rear, and it seemed a fearful distance to the head of the supporting column. I called Major Weed's attention to the situation, and he galloped to the rear to hurry forward re-enforcements, as it

was evident that here the battle was to be fought and the desperate issue joined on which the fate of the south tier of Kansas, at least, depended.

Advancing alone to see if possible how far their right extended behind the cover of the hill, the bursting in the air and the tearing up of the earth soon satisfied me that they were firing canister at an enemy they supposed were advancing on their right and hidden from view by the acclivity immediately in their front. This conviction on their part, I am satisfied, saved the brigade on our right, as a rapid and vigorous advance at that time would either have overwhelmed or utterly put it to rout. I moved to the right to get out of the sweep of the canister and then advanced till their extreme right was developed to view, and then rode rapidly to the rear with a tolerably full understanding of the situation. Meeting Colonel Crawford but a short distance back I explained matters to him very hastily, told him they had commenced canister firing, and urged him to go back and hurry up the troops, as he was acquainted with most of the brigade officers of General Pleasonton's division and I had no acquaintance whatever with any of them. He agreed to do so and again started to the rear. I then moved off to the brigade on our right, and when I arrived there found it engaged at long range and halted for our other troops to come up on line. The enemy's artillery was playing on this line with fearful effect and we had nothing but musketry to reply, but the men were steady and self-possessed and perfectly easy under the fire. I don't know how long it was before the other brigade came up. To me it seemed a long time, and I had ridden from this brigade back toward the enemy's right once or twice before it came up. When it did come on line the whole command advanced to short range, and for a time the fire was incessant and terrific. Both lines seemed like walls of adamant—one could not advance; the other would not recede. The crash of musketry, the scream of shell, the hissing sound of canister and balls, mingled with the shouts of the soldiers and the cries of the wounded, set off, too, by the walls of fire in front and girdles of steel behind, which marked both lines, formed a scene more easily remembered than described. During this terrible conflict I passed along the whole line and met your gallant staff officers everywhere, counseling, encouraging, exhorting, and commanding, and the tenor of the whole was "charge!" It was evident that our only safety was in a successful charge by which we might capture the guns. At length the movement commenced, slowly at first but increasing in velocity until it swept on resistless as an avalanche. A rush, a scramble, and all was over. The guns were captured, the enemy broken and flying to the rear, while our victorious squadrons were in almost breathless pursuit. So rapidly was this accomplished that when our left pushed forward into a field on the south side of the ravine the shell from our own artillery was crashing right into their midst. I was to the right of this, but so close that I could see this result, and also see Captain Hinton, of General Blunt's staff, in the midst of our victorious line.

Pushing rapidly forward, I witnessed the capture of Major-General Marmaduke by Corpl. James Dunlavy, of Company D, Third Iowa Cavalry. Marmaduke was endeavoring to rally his men and Dunlavy was galloping toward him, occasionally firing at him. Marmaduke evidently mistook him for one of his own men and started toward him, reproving him for firing on his friends. At least I so judge from what I could see and hear, and so the boy afterward told me. The boy stopped and coolly waited till Marmaduke got within twenty or thirty

yards of him, then covered him with his carbine and ordered him to dismount and surrender or he would fire. Marmaduke dismounted and his horse galloped off. Seeing that I was an officer the boy offered to turn him over to me, but I declined being burdened with a prisoner. General Marmaduke then said, "Sir, you are an officer. I claim protection at your hands. I am a general officer—General Marmaduke." I then took charge of him and informed him that I would protect him until delivered to you as a prisoner of war, at which he seemed very much relieved. The boy then spoke up and said, "Colonel, remember I took him prisoner. I am James Dunlavy, corporal of Company D, Third Iowa Cavalry." I told the boy (who was severely wounded in the right forearm, but who still grasped his pistol with vigor and energy) to come along also, and he should have the honor of being introduced to you as the captor of Marmaduke. On the way General Marmaduke complained of being dismounted, and Dunlavy promptly apologized, saying, "If I had known you were a general officer I should have allowed you to remain on horseback." Marmaduke then informed me that he was very faint and weak and could not walk much farther. Meeting a soldier with a led horse I took charge of him and mounted the prisoner. Soon after this I met Major McKenny, of your staff, and proffered to turn the prisoner over to him, but he was too intent on getting to the front to be troubled with him. On my way back I saw one or two general officers, but preferred delivering my prisoner to the commanding general of the Army of the Border, and you will remember that I accordingly placed him in your own hands, at the same time introducing his captor and giving his full name, company, and regiment. This is the true, unvarnished story of the capture of General Marmaduke, about which there has been so much misrepresentation in the newspapers. Having rid myself of this responsibility, I again hurried to the front. When I overtook the advance I found it halted at the foot of the precipitous mounds descending into the Osage Valley. Leaving Colonel Cloud, of your staff, here, Captain Hinton and myself pushed forward on to the skirmish line, away in the advance, almost as far as we could see over the smooth prairie, and on arriving there we could plainly see the rebel column moving straight in the direction of Fort Scott. At the same time a smaller column was effecting a junction with it which came from a point to our right higher up the Osage, and which was most probably the force engaged by Colonel Moonlight near Fort Lincoln.

The column in our front moved off and disappeared from sight, while our own line still remained stationary in our rear. I picked up an orderly from the skirmish line, who belonged to the Second Kansas Cavalry, and sent him back to Colonel Cloud with a message requesting him to try to get General Pleasonton to move forward, as I feared for Fort Scott, and at the same time got a citizen who had come forward with us to make a detour to the right and try to reach Fort Scott with a verbal message to the commanding officer to hold out to the last if the enemy struck him, as we were immediately upon his rear. Minutes passed and still our line did not move. I grew impatient and sent another man of the Second Kansas with a second message to Colonel Cloud, requesting him to see you and tell you that the enemy was moving in a direct line toward Fort Scott, and that to save it something must be done immediately. I feared that some one unacquainted with the topography of the country had led you to believe that the enemy was diverging to the east, as I knew at that time he was not. At length my suspense was ended, and the line began to move, and from this on there was no unnecessary

delay. Simultaneously the skirmish line also advanced. I waited until General Pleasonton came up (he being then with the advance), explained to him briefly the topography of the country, the direction the enemy had taken, my fears for Fort Scott, its situation, amount of stores, &c., and then hurried forward again to the skirmish line. The movement was then rapid and continuous till the skirmish line was checked near the verge of the Osage timber. The woods seemed alive with rebel soldiers but in rapid motion. The skirmishers kept up occasional firing at them until the advance brigade came up and we all charged rapidly down into the timber, but the enemy disappeared before our arrival. Colonel Cloud was in this charge, with about sixty veterans of the Second Kansas Cavalry. He halted in the timber to rest his horses for a few minutes and I pushed on with the advance brigade, which I think was Brigadier-General McNeil's. At all events it was commanded by a general officer. We followed down the stream some distance, crossed at the ford, and just as we were emerging from the timber on the south side the head of the column was fired on by the enemy's skirmishers. We soon dislodged them, however, and pushed on toward a corn-field to the left of the road. The head of the column was here checked by a heavy fire from the field, and it was evident that another battle was to be fought. Accordingly the general formed his brigade in close column of companies, and made them a little speech while forming to the effect that it made no difference whether there were 1,000 or 10,000 men on that field, he wanted them to ride right over them and saber them down as fast as they came to them. The men responded with a yell, the dismounted skirmishers tore down the fence in the face of a galling fire, and the column swept through it like a tornado.

In the rear of the corn-field another line was formed on the prairie, the right resting on a skirt of timber fringing a small stream, which the advance of the brigade, rapidly deploying into line, charged and broke at the first onset. A third line of battle was formed still farther to the rear, in a low basin, where there had been an evident intention to encamp, and which was surrounded by a semi-circle of hills, where they held us at bay under a severe fire for about twenty minutes or more, and until the whole brigade formed in line and charged. Before this impetuous charge they were again broken, and as I passed through their temporary halting place there was abundant evidence of the haste they were in, in the broken wagons, dismantled forges, fragmentary mess chests, and smashed crockery with which the ground was strewn. The chase this time lasted about a mile to the top of the hill south of the valley of the Osage, and on getting view of the enemy again from the summit of this hill, I was gratified to observe that he was bearing very palpably to the east, thus giving me my first reasonable hope that Fort Scott might be spared. I noticed, too, with increased satisfaction, that we were at least a mile east of the wire road and that for the first time the enemy's direction was turned from this place. Satisfied that I could render no further service, I determined to come directly here to see to a certainty whether the post, which was my especial care, was safe or not, and to satisfy those cravings of hunger which, though persistently ignored for three days and nights, would still, despite of resolutions, occasionally become clamorous. As I had been a sharer in all the fighting, and a participant in every charge heretofore during the day, I determined to get a good position and look at one from a safe distance, as I saw the enemy had formed two lines of battle a mile or more to our front. Accordingly, I secured the highest spot of ground in the vicinity, took out my field-glass, unused in all the previous events

of the day, and deliberately watched the operations. Major-General Pleasonton directed this attack in person, assisted by Major McKenny, who, as usual, was in the front. Of the perils or particulars I cannot speak, but of the results I can say that both lines broke and fled before our forces got even within respectable distance. I then turned the head of my "gallant gray" homeward, and never drew rein till I struck our picket post three miles from town, where some forty of our citizens, with Col. Perry Fuller at their head, were impatiently expecting news from the triumphant Army of the Border.

I cannot close this report without saying that I met the gallant officers of your staff everywhere during the stirring events of the day, and found them always active, energetic, and devoted. Major McKenny, in especial, seemed to be almost ubiquitous; wherever I went and whichever way I turned I was sure to meet him, and he was always to be found where the fire was the deadliest and the battle raged the fiercest.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. W. BLAIR,
Colonel Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Comdg. Department of Kansas, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.

No. 84.

Report of Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry, commanding Fourth Brigade.

FORT RILEY, KANS., *December —, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make to the major-general commanding First Division, Army of the Border, the following report of my regiment and the Fourth Brigade, First Division, Army of the Border:

While serving in the District of Central Missouri, Department of the Missouri, on the 29th September, I was ordered to report to Major-General Curtis, commanding Department of Kansas. He ordered me to concentrate my regiment at Pleasant Hill, but leave some troops to protect Kansas City and Independence temporarily until General Brown, commanding District of Central Missouri, could send other troops. I accordingly left Major Pritchard with two companies at Kansas City and two at Independence, while with eight companies I took position at Pleasant Hill as an advance of the Army of the Border; I daily sent out large scouts east, north, and southeast. Fearing that the enemy might pass between Independence and Pleasant Hill toward Hickman Mills (which was altogether the best route for him to take on account of water and forage), and thus get into Kansas without my being able to keep in his front to check him and give prompt information, on the 11th instant [October] I proceeded to Hickman Mills, sending Captain Elmer and fifty men, to make a circuit by the way of Lone Jack, Snibar, and Little Blue, to the same place. I also sent Captain Evens up the Independence road to come in by Raytown. They both reported the next day nothing of importance. On the 15th Major Smith, with thirty men, went to Independence, distance eighteen miles, and found the town evacuated by the troops, and the rebels, reported 1,200 strong, a short distance away. He immediately returned, and with 200 men started

out after dark to reconnoiter. On the 14th the major-general commanding First Division ordered me to establish my headquarters at Independence and scout well from there. On the 15th Major Smith returned; after passing through Independence he proceeded about twenty-nine miles on the Lexington road, and making a circuit toward Snibar and Lone Jack, returned by Hickman Mills, but saw no enemy. Lieutenant-Colonel Walker with his regiment (Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry) reported for duty to me per instructions received from department headquarters on the same day. At 2 a. m. of the 17th instant Major Smith, with 200 Second Colorado Cavalry and 100 Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, started toward Lexington to go, if possible, to the town and learn what he could. During the day I received a telegram from Major-General Curtis that Major-General Deitzler, Kansas State Militia, was sending three regiments Kansas State Militia to report to me, and directing me to report to General Deitzler by letter, and also to him (General Curtis) direct. On the 17th the Fourth, Twelfth, and Nineteenth Regiments Kansas State Militia arrived at Independence and reported to me for duty.

On the 18th Major Smith returned from Lexington. He reported he chased a few straggling bushwhackers out of that town, killing 2; he remained some hours in the town, and learned that several hundred rebels and guerrillas had been in the place but a short time before and that Shelby was camped with 2,000 or 3,000 men about six miles east. I regret exceedingly to have to state that the brigade books and papers were lost in the evacuation of Independence on the 21st instant, so that the able report of Major Smith cannot be forwarded with this. On the 19th the Fourth and Nineteenth Regiments Kansas State Militia were relieved from duty in my brigade and ordered to report to Col. C. W. Blair at the crossing of the Big Blue, and McLain's Independent Colorado Battery was ordered to report to me, it arriving about 6 o'clock on the evening of the 20th. On the morning of the 21st I received orders to march with the Second Colorado Cavalry, Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, and First Colorado Battery, to the support of Colonel Moonlight, commanding Second Brigade, First Division, who was reported as engaging the enemy at the crossing of the Little Blue on the Lexington road, leaving the Twelfth Kansas State Militia at Independence. The strength of my brigade was as follows: Second Colorado Cavalry, 384 men; Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, 400 men; Independent Colorado Battery, 116 men; five 3-inch rifled guns, and one mountain howitzer; total, 900 men and six guns. Left Independence at 10 a. m. and reached Colonel Moonlight's rear, near the Little Blue (distance eight miles), in about one hour. I then received orders to place the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry on the left of Colonel Moonlight's brigade, the battery near the center of the line, and the Second Colorado Cavalry on the right. We immediately dismounted and advanced into the bluffs and became at once engaged, the enemy having crossed the stream before our arrival. We held our ground, advancing slightly for some time, and at one time drove the enemy in great confusion, but his force being too overwhelmingly large he threw a large body to our right, which compelled the right to give slowly back. The brigade was then ordered to fall back slowly to their horses, the battery receiving orders from division headquarters direct. After mounting I received orders to cover the retreat of the army to Independence with the Second Colorado Cavalry and Sixteenth Kansas, assisted by a portion of the Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, which I did by forming half of my command in line across the road on some favorable spot, and while

that was engaging the enemy formed the remainder of the force in a similar manner in their rear, and when the first line became too hotly engaged marched it back by companies to the rear of the second line. I thus kept checking the enemy, giving the army time to pass through Independence safely, not reaching there myself until nearly sundown, when I was ordered to march my command across the Big Blue on the Kansas City road (distance six miles) and go into camp for the night; reached camp 9 p. m., the horses getting little or no forage and the men likewise to a great extent without food. The troops of my brigade behaved splendidly throughout the whole day and covered the retreat with the coolness of veterans.

I have to mourn the loss of Maj. J. Nelson Smith, who was commanding the Second Colorado Cavalry, and Francis S. Gould, esq., volunteer aide upon the brigade staff, the former being killed instantly and the latter mortally wounded. They were brave, gallant men, and could ill be spared. Early in the morning of the 22d the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry was ordered to proceed to the support of Colonel Jennison, commanding First Brigade, First Division, at Byram's Ford, and did not report to me again during the day. McLain's battery was placed in position on the right of Colonel Moonlight's brigade on the brow of the bluff immediately west of the Blue. The Second Colorado Cavalry and Twelfth Kansas State Militia were formed in line on the left of the Second Brigade, with the exception of six companies Second Colorado Cavalry, which I was ordered to take across the Blue as skirmishers. This battalion remained skirmishing with the enemy until late in the afternoon, taking some prisoners, and did not report back to the brigade until the next morning. About 2 p. m. I received orders to march my brigade immediately to Westport (seven miles distant), which place I reached by the gallop in an hour with the Second Colorado Cavalry, Twelfth Kansas State Militia, and McLain's battery. I then received orders to form on the hill toward Kansas City, where the brigade remained in line during the night, with the exception of the battery, which was ordered to Kansas City, but reported back again by daylight of the 23d. The men brought corn to their horses and rested alternately, but did not unsaddle. Early on the morning of the 23d I was ordered with my brigade through Westport. I formed a portion of the Second Colorado and Sixteenth Kansas on the hill immediately south of Brush Creek, with one section of the battery, but soon after advanced to the edge of the prairie and took up position across the road to the left of Colonel Jennison's brigade, the section of the battery being placed in the road. For a while the firing was exclusively artillery, but the rebels advancing, the whole line was soon engaged and kept up a very steady and galling fire for two hours or more. The enemy was repeatedly repulsed, and one very bold and dashing charge made by him down the road upon the battery was very handsomely repulsed by portions of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry and Second Colorado Cavalry, the countercharge being led in person by Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, commanding Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, and in which charge he received a very severe wound in the foot. Finally, in the face of a very heavy fire from the First Brigade, the enemy forced a very large column into a small copse to the right of my brigade and commenced a flank fire upon me.

Not having force enough to dislodge the enemy from his new position I fell back toward Brush Creek, forming line upon each ridge until I received orders to form north of the creek, the battery meanwhile hav-

ing been placed in a commanding position on the hill. After forming on the bottom, I sent part of the Second Colorado Cavalry, on foot, as skirmishers through the woods. The Twelfth Kansas State Militia were also sent into the woods on foot, doing good service. The footmen kept steadily driving the enemy until the advance of the whole division was ordered, when our old position was regained, and after a short fight the enemy was completely routed, and fled precipitately from the field. Every one advanced as speedily as possible, continuing the pursuit until dark. Colonel Jennison, with portions of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, and Second Colorado Cavalry in the extreme advance, ran on to the main body of the enemy, and kept up a rapid fire upon him from his line of skirmishers, but the enemy opened a battery of rifled guns upon him, he, of course, fell back, having no guns to respond with. The brigade went into camp for the night at Little Sante Fé, with the exception of the force with Colonel Jennison, which camped about a mile in advance of the division. As soon as the brigade was reorganized on the morning of the 24th, I started on the Line road in the pursuit of the rebel army, having the advance for the day. I sent three companies forward as an advance, which did not return to the brigade until the morning of the 26th, at Fort Scott. For an account of their service while absent, see inclosed marked F.* Reached West Point at dark, where a halt was made, giving the men time to kill and eat a beef. After forming the brigade in line, I was ordered to wait until Major-General Pleasonton's division passed to the front. Started again about 2 a. m. of the 25th, and halted until daylight about three miles north of Trading Post, Kans.; distance traveled about sixty miles. After feeding the horses, I took up the line of march, being in the rear of the First Brigade, which position I kept during the day. After following the enemy's trail seven or eight miles beyond where he left the Fort Scott road, I received orders to proceed to Fort Scott, reaching there about 11 p. m., and camped for the night. Total distance traveled during the day probably sixty-five miles. At Fort Scott on the morning of the 26th instant, I reorganized my brigade, a great many of the horses having given out in the last two days. I left one section of the battery there, putting eight horses to the guns and caissons which I took with me. Again commenced the pursuit about noon, the time being consumed in drawing horses for the battery from Major Hunt, chief of artillery, Army of the Border.

From this time until the afternoon of the 28th we continued marching night and day, with but short halts and small feeds, following at all times the trail of the enemy. About 10 a. m., my brigade being in the advance, we discovered the enemy's rear in the edge of the woods north of Shoal Creek. I sent two companies of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry into the woods as skirmishers, who soon reported that the party was about 200 strong and retreating fast. I then pressed rapidly forward, and, upon reaching Granby, ascertained that they had just passed through and that Price's whole army was doubtless at Newtonia, distant five miles. The advance soon reported that the enemy's train was in sight and but few men visible. I hurried forward at a gallop, and when within two miles of the town saw the rear of the rebel train entering the woods beyond town on the Cassville road. The battery was immediately planted on the bluffs and commenced throwing shell, while the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry and Second Colorado Cavalry were

* Not found.

formed in two lines and ordered to charge down toward the enemy's train, the charge being led by the major-general commanding First Division in person. We advanced at a gallop, with skirmishers in front, until we came upon the main body of the enemy, who was formed three lines deep and the front line dismounted. The action was commenced in earnest, and for three hours with less than 900 men (my brigade consisting of less than 600 men) we contended with an enemy of ten times our number, and closed the day by driving him from the field, leaving his dead and wounded in our hands. During the hottest of the engagement the enemy threw a large body of men upon our left, their fire telling fearfully upon our small force, but the left, commanded by Major Ketner, commanding Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, never wavered nor flinched, but answered shot for shot. The brigade remained upon the field until 9 p. m., when it went into camp in the town of Newtonia. During the 29th instant the brigade marched with the division to Neosho, returning to Newtonia the next day, October 30. On the 31st instant, after issuing rations and ammunition to the command started forward again on the enemy's trail, the footmen of my brigade marching with the transportation under command of Lieut. M. Hennion, Second Colorado Cavalry. My brigade numbered at this time not more than 450 or 500 men, so many horses having given out from excessive and long continued marches without sufficient forage and water.

On the 4th instant [November] we arrived at Fayetteville, relieving that place from the determined attacks of the rebel General Fagan, commanding division in General Price's army. About noon of the 8th instant arrived on the bank of the Arkansas River, fifteen miles above Fort Smith, as the rear of the rebel army was disappearing in the woods beyond. The battery was placed upon the north side of the river and shelled the opposite woods, with what success not known. The brigade was disbanded on the 9th instant per special field orders, First Division, Army of the Border, dated November 9, 1864, and I was ordered with my regiment (Second Colorado Cavalry) to report for escort duty to Maj. Gen. S. R. Curtis, commanding Department of Kansas.

Total distance traveled by the Fourth Brigade from October 16, when it was organized, until November 9, the date of special field orders disbanding the brigade, must be over 400 miles. The casualties of the brigade cannot be exactly ascertained, but are reported by subordinate commanders, as follows: Killed and wounded, Second Colorado Cavalry, 70; Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, 67; Independent Colorado Battery, 5. Total, 142.

The campaign just closed was the most severe upon men and horses that any of the troops comprising my brigade were ever engaged in as regards marching, scarcity of food, forage, and water, inclement weather, &c., yet all, both men and officers, endured unflinchingly hardships and privations, and on all occasions behaved with the coolness of veterans when under fire. Where all did well, it is difficult to particularize, but I cannot forbear to mention Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, who, though painfully wounded at the battle of Westport, continued in the saddle until the brigade reached Fort Scott. Major Ketner, of the Sixteenth, also displayed at all times great coolness and gallantry, being always in the thickest of the fight, and having at Newtonia two horses shot under him, and in fact all the officers and men of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry did splendidly throughout the whole campaign. Maj. Jesse L. Pritchard, commanding the Second Colorado Cavalry, behaved with conspicuous bravery

and coolness at all times, and especially at the battle of Newtonia, where he ably obeyed all my orders, and held the line unflinchingly after the carbine ammunition had been expended. Capt. W. H. Greene, who commanded the Second Colorado Cavalry from the death of Major Smith (during the battle of Little Blue) until the morning of the 24th, when Major Pritchard took command, did excellent service, and is deserving of great praise. Credit is also due to Capt. W. D. McLain, for the skillful manner in which he maneuvered his battery, and prompt obedience to all my orders. I must not omit to mention Colonel Treat, of the Twelfth Kansas State Militia, who assisted and co-operated with me very heartily, and at the battle of Westport did good service with his regiment dismounted.

To my staff officers I am greatly indebted for the promptness with which my orders were promulgated and for their utter disregard to all personal safety and comfort. Adjt. Robert S. Roe, acting assistant adjutant-general, and Lieuts. William Wise and J. Fenton Seymour, aides-de-camp, were especially valuable to me as I could at all times rely upon their coolness, judgment, and experience in directing movements that were made not under my personal observation. Surg. I. J. Pollok and his assistants, Akin and Vance, were also untiring in their efforts at attending to the wounded of the brigade.

For the minutiæ of the campaign I would respectfully invite your attention to the following inclosures,* viz: Report of Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, commanding Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, marked A; report of Maj. James Ketner, commanding Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, marked B; report of Capt. W. H. Greene, commanding Second Colorado Cavalry, marked C; report of Maj. Jesse L. Pritchard, commanding Second Colorado Cavalry, marked D; report of Capt. W. D. McLain, commanding Independent Colorado Battery, marked E; report of Capt. E. W. Kingsbury, commanding battalion Second Colorado Cavalry, marked F.

In closing my report I have to thank the major-general commanding the First Division, Army of the Border, for the many favors bestowed upon me and my brigade.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. FORD,
Colonel Second Colorado Cavalry, late Commanding Fourth Brigade, First Division, Army of the Border.

Capt. GEORGE S. HAMPTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Division, Army of the Border.

No. 85.

Reports of Maj. J. Nelson Smith, Second Colorado Cavalry.

INDEPENDENCE, MO., *October 15, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that in pursuance to instructions received from you on the 13th instant I proceeded at 9.30 same evening with Companies A, G, F, and L to this place. When about half-way to this place I met Captain Moses with his company (M) and Company C. I came to this place with the whole command (six com-

* Not found.

panies), arriving at 1 o'clock next a. m. I then quartered my men in the public square, hitching my horses outside the same. At this place (Independence) I learned that an attack was expected at daylight in the a. m. I remained here until 9 a. m. (quartering my men on the citizens for their breakfast, as my command had no rations), then moved with my whole command east (down the Missouri River) fifteen miles, where I met a citizen by the name of Drake, who was from the vicinity of Lexington, who informed me that the day before two bodies of the enemy (either bushwhackers or Confederate troops), one of 200 and the other of 100, had crossed the Missouri River going north, while it was reported that larger parties had crossed the river going north, and it was also currently reported that a larger force of the enemy had crossed the river going north. It was also reported (by pretty reliable authority) that General Price with a command of 8,000 had left the vicinity of Lexington last Wednesday, going south. I proceeded from the point above referred to, traveling nearly due south until I arrived near the south line of Jackson County. I then traveled in a southwesterly direction for about ten miles; then in a northwesterly direction until I reached Hickman Mills, arriving at that place at 9 o'clock last evening, where, finding that all the troops of your command had left, and my own command being too much fatigued to go farther, I went into camp, where I remained until sunrise this a. m., when I proceeded to this place, arriving at 9.30, having traveled a distance of eighty or eighty-five miles, my men having nothing to eat since yesterday a. m. at 6 o'clock.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. NELSON SMITH,
Major Second Colorado Cavalry, Commanding.

Col. JAMES H. FORD,
Commanding Second Colorado Cavalry.

INDEPENDENCE, MO., *October 18, 1864.*

SIR: For the information of the colonel commanding I have the honor to report that in pursuance to instructions received from him I left this place on the p. m. of Sunday, the 16th instant, at 8 o'clock, with detachments of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry and Second Colorado Cavalry, viz, Companies H, K, and L, Sixteenth Kansas, commanded by Major Ketner, and Companies C, E, G, K, and L, Second Colorado, numbering in all about 300 men. I proceeded east on the Lexington telegraph road, and when out nine or ten miles from this place found the telegraph line down and cut, which continued for every two or three miles until I reached Lexington. When I had proceeded about twenty-five miles I found that it was occupying so much time, and the wire for repairing having been all used up, I abandoned the idea of repairing the line and proceeded on to my destination. When within ten miles of Lexington I commenced making inquiries in regard to the force and kind of force at that place, and the invariable report was from 500 to 700 men, about one-half Confederate troops and the rest bushwhackers, and not until I got within one mile and a half or two miles could I learn anything to the contrary, when I learned that it was reported that the enemy's force had left late the night before. I dashed with my command into the town on the a. m. of the 17th a little after sunrise, but found the town evacuated by the enemy. I was informed by the citizens that a strong picket of the enemy had been

posted in the town during the night previous and had left at daylight; also that a small picket had left the town as I occupied it. I found but very few citizens in the streets, and they all women and children, but as soon as they learned that Federals occupied the town what few male citizens there were left commenced crawling out of their holes, and the citizens generally commenced swarming around us, some in tears, some in smiles, and some in rags, and generally appeared much rejoiced at our arrival, and offered us the hospitalities of the town, inviting us to their homes, and acted as if they felt that they could not do too much for us. I immediately posted a strong picket about the town and sent out scouts in different directions, as I had learned that a force of from 500 to 700 Confederates had been in camp only six miles from town that a. m. at daylight, intending if such a force was there, if not too strongly posted, to make them show their hands or else throw up ours. My scouts proceeded in a south and a southeasterly direction a distance of nine miles and found no force except a picket of the enemy six miles from town, which the scouts fired upon, killing 1 and wounding 2. I learned that quite a large force of the enemy had been at Dover, a distance of eight miles, but that the pickets had been driven in from Lexington by the Federal troops and reported them in large force there, and more coming, and that the Confederates had got up and skedaddled. I also learned in Lexington (from what I consider pretty reliable authority) that a force from 2,000 to 3,000 strong (said to be Shelby's force, and commanded by General Fagan, C. S. Army) was down the river at Waverly.

The citizens of Lexington have had a reign of terror, both loyal people, McClellan people, and rebels. The enemy have plundered and robbed indiscriminately, taking everything of value that they could carry away, and have left many poor families very destitute. I captured 30 double-barreled shotguns brought by the enemy to Lexington to arm their conscripts with; also 1,000 rounds of ammunition, all of which I destroyed, as I had no transportation to carry them away. I sent a dispatch to Captain Eads, First Missouri State Militia, who I learned was at Richmond, across the river, and who was in command at Lexington with his company and two full companies of citizen guards at the time that it was evacuated, advising him to return, which he did just as my rear guard were leaving town, I being well satisfied that he could hold the place if he chose to. I left the place with my command at about 4 o'clock (being out of rations), the citizens pleading with me to stay, and telling me that they would feed my whole command as long as I chose to or could stay there. I returned eighteen miles by same route on which I went in and went into camp, it being now dark. Just before going into camp my advance ran onto six mounted men, what I supposed to be the enemy's (bushwhackers) pickets, and who after getting into the brush some distance discharged two shots, probably signals for the force to which they belonged. It being quite dark, my command and their horses being tired and worn out, I did not think it advisable to pursue them. I here had my telegraph operator tap the wire so that I might communicate with you, but he reported that he could get no circuit and I had to abandon it. Hearing that a force of from 75 to 100 bushwhackers had passed south of us just before we went into camp, I sent Captain Greene with his company (E) and Companies G and L, Second Colorado Cavalry, this a. m. just before daylight to see if he could find their whereabouts, and if so give them a turn. His (Captain Greene's) report*

* Not found.

accompanies this and is marked C; also notice* marked A, published by Captain Bedinger, C. S. Army, at Lexington, October 14, 1864, and orders* marked B, by Capt. George S. Rathbun, same date and army. Most of the recruits enlisted by Captains Rathbun and Bedinger, as well as most of their conscripts, deserted and returned to their homes.

In conclusion, I would remark that too much credit cannot be given to the officers and men under my command for their good behavior and prompt obedience of orders. No complaints whatever came to me of the misconduct of any man of my command. I broke camp at daylight this a. m. and arrived here at 12 m.

J. NELSON SMITH,
Major Second Colorado Cavalry, Commanding.

ROBERT S. ROE,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., 4th Brig., 1st Div., Army of the Border.

No. 86.

Report of Maj. Gen. George W. Deitzler, Kansas State Militia.

HEADQUARTERS KANSAS STATE MILITIA,
Topeka, December 15, 1864.

MAJOR: In compliance with general field orders from your headquarters, dated Camp Arkansas, November 8, 1864, I have the honor to report the part taken by the troops under my command in the recent campaign against the rebel army under Major-General Price:

On the 9th day of October, 1864, in pursuance of instructions from His Excellency the Governor of Kansas, I issued orders to the militia to prepare themselves for active service for thirty days, and to concentrate immediately at the points indicated in said order, a copy of which is herewith inclosed.† So prompt were the militia in responding to this call, and such was the alacrity and enthusiasm manifested in concentrating at the points indicated, that upon my arrival at Olathe, on the evening of the 12th, I found several regiments already in camp there. On the morning of the 13th, having received verbal instructions from Major-General Curtis to order all troops directed to concentrate at Olathe to move to Shawneetown, I proceeded to that point, formed an encampment, and gave directions to thoroughly arm and equip the troops. During the three succeeding days the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Twentieth, and Twenty-first Regiments of the militia arrived in camp at Shawneetown. The regiments of Kansas State Militia, which had been ordered to rendezvous at the city of Atchison, were subsequently directed to proceed to Wyandotte and Kansas City. Orders from your headquarters designating the troops in the field as the Army of the Border, and dividing it into two wings, the right under Major-General Blunt, and assigning me to the command of the left, required several regiments of the militia of Southern Kansas to report to General Blunt, who will doubtless include their action in his report. The fact that the citizen soldiery who responded so promptly to the call of the Governor were compelled to leave their homes and business to the care of the women, the old and decrepit, thereby incurring heavy losses and great inconvenience, caused much anxiety and uneasiness, and a strong desire to end the campaign as soon as possible. This feeling was largely increased by the mystery surrounding the

*Not found. †See p. 469.

movements of the enemy, and the uncertain and conflicting information furnished by the officials belonging to the army of General Rosecrans in search of Price.

The impression became general that the rebel forces had moved south through General Rosecrans lines, and we were puzzled prodigiously to account for or understand how a hostile army of 20,000 men could remain in Boonville and the vicinity foraging wide for some two weeks "pursued by General Sanborn's cavalry with all possible dispatch" without molestation. No satisfactory explanation has yet been given of this singular effort to find Price and to "draw him into a trap." In my judgment it was one of the most extraordinary circumstances in the history of campaigning, and it created so great a distrust among the militia that several became discouraged and returned to their homes. The first development of the rebel army was made by Major-General Blunt, who discovered them at Lexington, Mo., on the 19th of October, and being overpowered by superior numbers was obliged to retreat to Independence. Several days prior to this I had, by direction of Major-General Curtis, sent to Independence two regiments of the Kansas State Militia, the Twelfth and Nineteenth, and on the 19th repaired thither in person. On the morning of the 21st, in obedience to orders, I moved with the Nineteenth Regiment to the Big Blue and began to fortify the several crossings of that stream. At this place I found Colonel Blair in command of the Fifth, Sixth, and Tenth Regiments Kansas State Militia and Captain McLain's Colorado battery. I immediately gave the necessary orders to erect fortifications and place the troops in position, and also ordered Brig. Gen. M. S. Grant, who was left in charge of the troops at Shawneetown, to proceed with two regiments of cavalry and two pieces of artillery to Hickman Mills with instructions to fortify and defend the crossings of the Blue at that point, and to open communication with our forces on his left. The remainder of the cavalry and infantry were ordered from Shawneetown to the crossing of the Big Blue on the Independence road, to which place the troops under General Blunt also retreated during the night of the 21st. The entire Army of the Border was now in position on and along the north side of the Big Blue, occupying every passable crossing of that stream from its mouth to Hickman Mills, a distance of about fifteen miles, and presenting a formidable appearance.

Price's army entered Independence on the 20th [21st], and on the morning of the 21st [22d] his cavalry made demonstrations at several points in front of my position (the left wing), in several instances driving the pickets in under cover of our artillery. About noon, having received reliable information that a heavy column of the enemy was moving against the right of our line, I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, commanding Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, with two pieces of artillery, to re-enforce that position. Subsequently the Twelfth Kansas State Militia and Captain McLain's battery were also withdrawn from my line to re-enforce the right under General Blunt. The enemy having forced a passage of the Blue at Byram's Ford, about 3 p. m., and my position being threatened from the rear, I quietly withdrew my command in perfect order, and retired to Kansas City in obedience to instructions from Major-General Blunt. Just as the troops commenced moving from our works on the Blue, a detachment of rebel cavalry made a furious dash upon the left center of my line, occupied by the Nineteenth Regiment Kansas State Militia, under Colonel Hogan, who received the charge with the greatest coolness and gallantry, completely routing the enemy, killing 12 and capturing 10, without loss to

our side. If my information is correct, Price commenced moving his trains south from Independence about 10 o'clock on the night of the 21st under a strong escort, and on the morning of the 22d he moved with his cavalry and some artillery toward Westport, crossing the Blue at Byram's Ford, with the avowed intention of going into Kansas. He drove Colonel Jennison's command to the edge of the timber, about two miles from Westport, where he (Jennison) was re-enforced by a portion of the militia which had become detached from General Grant's command at Hickman Mills. A strong detachment of the enemy moved up the Blue under cover of the timber and attacked General Grant, throwing his command into some confusion, killing 36, wounding 43, taking about 100 prisoners, capturing 1 piece of artillery, and compelling General Grant to retire to Olathe. The loss of the enemy in this engagement is not known, but it must have been considerable.

General Grant speaks in the highest terms of the militia under his command, and expresses the opinion that he could have succeeded in repulsing the enemy had it not been for the disgraceful conduct of Major Laing.

In his report of the affair near Hickman Mills General Grant says:

> Major Laing, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, with four squadrons of his regiment, was but a short distance in my rear when the fight commenced. I expected he would support me, and sent him word to do so, but he would not, and did not, although urged to do so by every officer in his command. He withdrew his command from the field, which had the effect of destroying the courage of the men under Colonel Lowe (Twenty-first Kansas State Militia) who also failed to support me. Major Laing is responsible for the most of my loss, and showed cowardice in the face of the enemy.

The enemy having forced General Grant to retire during the night to Olathe, and the commands of Colonels Moonlight and Jennison, with several detachments of militia, to Westport, encamped on the night of the 22d on the south side of Brush Creek, about two miles from Westport, his line extending into Kansas near the Shawnee Mission. On the morning of the 23d I received instructions from the commanding general to remain in Kansas City, and to place the artillery and infantry in proper position in the intrenchments and to hurry to the front all the mounted men. About 9 a. m. I directed Brigadier-General Sherry, Kansas State Militia, to assume command of the works in Kansas City, and proceeded to Westport. There had been severe fighting all morning in the vicinity of Westport, and some brilliant charges by the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Regiments Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, which were resisted with great stubbornness, and resulted in heavy loss to the enemy, but no ground was gained by our side. The enemy's left in attempting to advance into Kansas had been successfully turned and driven back by the brigades under the gallant Colonels Moonlight and Jennison, who occupied a position near the Shawnee Mission. When I arrived at the front the firing had ceased and I found our forces formed on the bluff on the north side of Brush Creek, the left resting on the road leading from Westport to Hickman Mills, and the enemy on the south side of said creek, beyond the woods. The Kansas militia were dismounted and the horses sent to the rear, and as soon as the formation was completed our forces were ordered by Major-General Curtis to advance, with General Blunt on the left and myself on the right.

The personal presence of Major-General Curtis inspired the men with confidence, and the whole command moved forward in perfect order through the dense underbrush, and as they emerged from the woods on the south side of Brush Creek they encountered the enemy in strong

force, and, after a severe struggle, in which our troops showed the greatest bravery, drove him from his chosen position. Taking advantage of the confusion which occurred in the enemy's ranks at this time, our victorious forces advanced rapidly into the open field, firing volley after volley into the flying rebels, killing and wounding large numbers, who were left in our hands. Both armies were now in full view of each other on the open prairie, presenting one of the most magnificent spectacles in nature. The enemy made several attempts to stand, but such was the dashing bravery of our troops that they never succeeded in rallying and forming their men to offer any considerable resistance. A running fight was then kept up for about four miles, the enemy, slowly retreating in a southerly direction, parallel with and about a mile from the State line, in Missouri, when General Rosecrans' advance, under Major General Pleasonton, made its appearance some distance from the right of the enemy, and opened upon them with artillery. At this point the retreat became a perfect rout, and the enemy, running in great confusion southward, were soon out of sight. Their course was indicated by dense volumes of smoke from burning prairie hay, grain stacks, &c. I accompanied the pursuit a short distance beyond the Blue, where we were joined by Major-General Pleasonton and staff. After consultation with that officer it was decided that the U. S. forces under Generals Curtis and Pleasonton were sufficient to follow the rebel horde and to drive them beyond the States of Missouri and Kansas, whereupon I requested and obtained permission from the general commanding to order the militia to their several counties, except the Fifth, Sixth, and Tenth Regiments, all from Southern Kansas, who continued with the pursuit to Fort Scott, from whence they were sent to their homes.

Not having received complete reports from the several brigade commanders I am not, at this time, prepared to make accurate statements respecting the number of militia in the field, of men killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, nor of particular acts of gallantry and daring of members of the militia which deserve honorable mention. In my report to the Governor of Kansas I will endeavor to do full justice to all. Suffice it to say here, that our casualties were comparatively slight, and that the conduct of both officers and men were highly satisfactory, reflecting great credit and honor upon themselves and the State, and entitling them to the thanks of the whole country.

I cannot close my report without expressing, in behalf of the people of Kansas, my grateful acknowledgments for the distinguished services rendered in the campaign against Price's plundering and murdering army by that noble patriot and gallant chieftain, Maj. Gen. S. R. Curtis. Always at his post, and ever watchful of the interests intrusted to his care, he saw the threatened danger even before the invaders appeared at Pilot Knob, and was the first to sound the tocsin of alarm. With characteristic energy he made every possible preparation to meet the enemy, and entered the field in person at an early day, where he remained, scarcely leaving his saddle, until he saw the rebel horde driven beyond the limits of the department, and only gave up the chase when both his men and animals were completely exhausted. Turning a deaf ear to the schemes of politicians and office-seekers who followed the army, he manifested a singleness of purpose and a devotion to duty rarely witnessed. To the knowledge and ripe experience in military affairs, the vigilance and energy of Major-General Curtis, and his kind co-operation in furnishing arms, ammunition, and the necessary sup-

plies to the militia, Kansas, in a great measure, owes her preservation from the devastating hands of a ruthless foe, and to him we tender our sincere thanks.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. DEITZLER,
Major-General, Kansas State Militia.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 87.

Report of Brig. Gen. W. H. M. Fishback, commanding Fifth Brigade District, Kansas State Militia.

OLATHE, KANS., *December 26, 1864.*

Major-General CURTIS,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans.:

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of my official report to Maj. John T. Morton, assistant adjutant-general.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. M. FISHBACK,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. 5TH BRIG. DISTRICT, KANSAS STATE MILITIA,
Paola, October 28, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the action of this brigade while in active service, under proclamation of the commander in chief, dated on the 8th instant:

In obedience to General Orders, No. —, of Maj. Gen. George W. Deitzler, dated Topeka, October 8 [9], 1864, I dispatched messengers forthwith to the different regimental commanders in my district, ordering every man liable to duty immediately into the field, concentrating my forces in accordance with said orders at Paola, Kans. The order was obeyed with a promptness truly astonishing, especially when we consider the sparsity of some of the settlements in South Kansas and the great distance traveled in notifying the men. Never was there an order obeyed with greater alacrity. On the evening of October the 10th instant the Fifth Regiment Kansas State Militia, Col. G. A. Colton, had organized, and reported for duty; on the 11th instant the Tenth Regiment Kansas State Militia, Col. William Pennock, was on the march from Franklin and Anderson Counties, and marched to my headquarters on the 12th. On the 13th instant I was ordered by Maj. Gen. James G. Blunt to march all my available forces to Hickman Mills, Mo., which up to this date consisted of the Fifth Regiment Kansas State Militia Cavalry, Col. G. A. Colton, 471 men; the Tenth Regiment Kansas State Militia Cavalry, Col. William Pennock, 751 men. Of these I reported to General Blunt 528 men, without arms and all with little or no ammunition, but on his solemn promise to telegraph to Leavenworth for sufficient arms and ammunition to meet us at Aubrey,

Kans., as also to furnish us with blankets, camp equipage, and all things necessary for the campaign, on the morning of the 14th instant we took up our line of march for that place, leaving Capt. W. R. Wagstaff in command of the post. Arrived at Aubrey about 3 p. m., was informed by General Blunt that the arms and ammunition were at Oxford, where we would march next morning. In the meantime I sent a detail of men with transportation for all the arms and ammunition that could be had at the post of Olathe, and got about 5,000 rounds of ammunition, but no arms. I then ordered my command to Oxford, Kans., and still finding that arms and ammunition had not been forwarded to that place, according to the general's solemn promise, the men became demoralized, and those without arms and ammunition refused to proceed farther without them. I here was compelled to order all men without arms and ammunition back to Paola, Kans., for arms and ammunition, and marched to Hickman Mills with those who had arms, some of which were unfit for service. On the 15th instant the Sixth Regiment Kansas State Militia, Lieut. Col. James D. Snoddy commanding, reported to me for duty at Hickman Mills, Mo., consisting of 530 men. On the same day General Blunt transmitted to my headquarters the following general field orders:

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 2. } HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, ARMY OF THE BORDER, *In the Field, Hickman Mills, October 15, 1864.*

The troops of the division, Army of the Border, are hereby organized into brigades as follows, to wit:

I. First Brigade, under command of Col. C. R. Jennison, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, will consist of the Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, detachment of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and five mountain howitzers.

II. Second Brigade, under command of Col. T. Moonlight, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, will consist of the Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, detachment of the Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, detachment of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, and four mountain howitzers.

III. Third Brigade, under the command of Col. C. W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, will consist of the Fifth Regiment Kansas State Militia, commanded by Col. G. A. Colton; the Sixth Regiment Kansas State Militia, commanded by Col. James D. Snoddy; the Tenth Regiment Kansas State Militia, commanded by Col. William Pennock, under the immediate command of Brig. Gen. W. H. M. Fishback, Kansas State Militia; Independent Battery Colorado Volunteer Artillery, and section of Second Kansas Battery. Commanding officers of regiments, detachments, and batteries will report immediately to commanding officers of brigades for further orders.

By command of Major-General Blunt:

GEO. S. HAMPTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

This order of General Blunt I considered a most wanton and uncalled for assumption of authority on his part, contrary to the spirit of the militia law of Kansas, and in direct violation of the understanding under which the militia were called out, and a gross breach of good faith toward those men who were assured they would be led by their own officers, and as Kansas militia they should be kept under the control of militia officers, the whole under the command of Maj. Gen. George W. Deitzler, Kansas State Militia, an officer of great experience and tried bravery, almost the first of the sons of Kansas who sprang to arms at the call of his country, who led the First Regiment Kansas Volunteer Infantry during the first years of the rebellion, and who freely shed his blood for our common country, and one in whom all had unbounded confidence. Yet this order of General Blunt sweeps the brigade wholly from our control and places it for the time being beyond our reach. This I could not consent to without orders from the major-general of the Kansas State Militia. I immediately dispatched a messenger to

him with a copy of the order and a statement of the facts, at Shawneetown, Kans., which was promptly answered as follows, to wit:

HEADQUARTERS KANSAS MILITIA,
In Camp at Shawneetown, October 16, 1864.

Gen. W. H. M. FISHBACK,
Kansas State Militia, Hickman Mills, Mo.:

GENERAL: The order of General Blunt with your indorsement is received. I am directed by General Deitzler to say that while you are expected to obey all lawful orders issued by General Blunt, you are not required to report to an officer of inferior rank for duty. The utmost harmony among the forces which this exigency will throw together is especially desirable; you cannot, however, be expected to obey an order which has neither the sanction of law nor usage. You will therefore retain your command until superseded by a ranking officer. I have not the slightest doubt that General Curtis will take the same view of the matter, and if General Blunt persists in the order a statement of the facts to General Curtis will set all right. The order and indorsement as received will be forwarded to General Curtis.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. E. LEARNARD,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

For the reasons already stated I declined to obey General Blunt's order, believing as I did it was an insult to the State and well calculated to demoralize the men, and as you are aware did demoralize whole companies who had not yet crossed the line, and who refused to cross, fearing their rights as Kansas men and Kansas militia would there no longer be respected. Reports, apparently reliable and well authenticated, had at this time reached me calculated to create the deepest alarm among our brave men in the field, who had left their wives, their families, and their property at home on the border almost wholly unprotected. That large bands of guerrillas were threatening our border in the vicinity of Rockville and Mound City, and as our line was unprotected, there being but few troops of any description from Olathe to Fort Scott, and up to that time we had had no definite information of Price or his whereabouts, I determined to send a portion of the Kansas State Militia to Rockville, on the line southeast of Paola, to scout and guard the country apparently in the most immediate danger; for this purpose, and in obedience to my order, a copy of which is herewith inclosed, the Sixth Regiment Kansas State Militia, Lieutenant-Colonel Snoddy commanding, marched from camp on the 16th instant, and when out some three or four miles they were overtaken by General Blunt, as I am informed, with six companies of the Fifteenth Regiment Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, and one howitzer, and were ordered to halt under penalty of being fired upon. Lieutenant-Colonel Snoddy was disarmed and sent to the rear of his regiment, and his men marched back to camp and were directed by General Blunt to elect a colonel, a lieutenant-colonel, and a major—a lieutenant-colonel in the place of Lieutenant-Colonel Snoddy, whom he had deposed, and a colonel and major to fill existing vacancies; a high-handed assumption of power in keeping with his other acts. I was then placed under arrest by Special Field Orders, No. 3, issued by General Blunt, and was sent under guard to Paola, Kans. Upon my arrival there I found an order had already been received by telegraph from Maj. Gen. S. R. Curtis, commanding Department of Kansas, for my immediate release and return to my command. I was, of course, much gratified to find that that stern old patriot hero (the "Wheel-Horse of the Campaign") had seen through the flimsy pretext under which the arrest was made, and had so promptly ordered my release, and thus so pointedly discountenancing the arbitrary act

of his subordinate, General Blunt. In haste I returned to my brigade, then encamped on the Big Blue, four miles southeast of Kansas City, Mo., and again took command.

We were now engaged in fortifying our position against the approach of the enemy, who was steadily advancing upon us. On the 21st I was ordered by Major-General Deitzler to proceed to Shawneetown and Shawnee Mission and bring up at once all the remaining forces that had assembled at those points, which was promptly done, and, with the exception of a few stragglers, the entire command took up their line of march for Westport and the crossings of the Big Blue, and were still employed on the fortifications when the enemy appeared in our front. The Fifth, Sixth, and Tenth Regiments Kansas State Militia were stationed at the ford at the Independence road, which had been well fortified, and after some slight skirmishing the enemy moved up to Byram's Ford, and there, after a stubborn but ineffectual effort on our part to impede his progress, he effected a crossing toward evening and our forces were ordered by Major-General Curtis to fall back to Westport, Mo. On Sunday morning, the 23d instant, the enemy appeared in line of battle south of Brush Creek, near Westport. Generals Curtis and Blunt occupied a position in front and directed our movements in person. At about 8 a. m. our entire force moved out to meet the enemy, and took position on Brush Creek, extending our lines from east to west, Colonel Jennison's brigade occupying the left, Colonel Moonlight's the right, and my brigade the center. Here the brigade was dismounted and acted as support to the batteries.

The battle at this point was fierce and stubborn and with varying success, neither side gaining any decisive advantage for more than three hours, the rebels hotly contesting every foot until about 11 o'clock, when they began slowly falling back. Our men stood up nobly to their work and maintained their ground like veterans, and, seeing their advantage, were eager to pursue. The enemy were now plainly feeling their way out and losing nerve. Our boys commenced and soon the whole woods resounded with loud and long-continued cheer after cheer as we drive them and push them from the timber. Our batteries are now hurried through the corn-fields, followed by the militia, who are supporting them. Here we have punished them severely; their dead are numerous and lie on the field unburied. Our loss compared with theirs is trifling. By 12 o'clock we have reached the open prairie four miles south of Westport, when we see on our left as far as the eye can reach a long column advancing toward us. We are inspired with a new and intense interest; we look and listen; we are not long in doubt; we hear the artillery of Generals Pleasonton and McNeil; they have at last reached us and given the enemy's right a taste of their powder; we now have them upon the hip; the retreat becomes a perfect rout; we cannot keep pace with them. The battle is over, the victory won, and nobly won, and we feel that Kansas is safe; we breathe freer. We have done our whole duty; the volunteers keep up the pursuit, while the militia wait for their horses. This has been a glorious day for Kansas. She may well be proud of her militia. The Fifth Regiment, Col. G. A. Colton; the Sixth Regiment, Col. James Montgomery; the Tenth Regiment, Col. William Pennock, composed the brigade under my command, and all, without an exception, behaved with splendid gallantry and continued the pursuit closely until the night of the 24th instant, when General Pleasonton's command took the front. Seeing that pursuit was useless on their part and being almost entirely exhausted from fatigue and hunger, some of them fell behind, while others pressed on with me and participated in the fights

at the Marais des Cygnes, Mine Creek, Little Osage, and southeast of Fort Scott, all of which were hard-fought battles and victories gained for Kansas. Night coming on we retired to Fort Scott till the morning of the 26th instant, when I still tendered my brigade to General Curtis if needed in the farther pursuit of the enemy, but the general thought best to leave the militia to guard their homes and issued the following field orders, to wit:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
In the Field, Fort Scott, Kans., October 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. H. M. Fishback, Kansas State Militia, will return to his headquarters at Paola, Kans. His command may return to the vicinity of their homes for the present, but will hold themselves in readiness to repel raids at a moment's notice.

By order of Major-General Curtis:

S. S. CURTIS,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

In obedience to the above order I ordered all the militia at Fort Scott from my district to march to the vicinity of their homes and hold themselves in readiness to repel raids subject to the commander in chief, among whom was the gallant Col. James Montgomery, commanding Sixth Regiment Kansas State Militia, who of my brigade was last to quit the chase; also Colonel Mitchell, commanding Eleventh Regiment Kansas State Militia, who had fallen in with the command on the way, and others who up to this time had not reported to me for duty, but are all deserving of great praise for their bravery and patriotism. I have up to this time received no official report from any of the regiments in my brigade and cannot give the precise number of killed and wounded, but from unofficial reports am assured that they are very few indeed. Among the officers of my staff who deserve especial mention are Capt. J. B. Hovey, brigade quartermaster; Surgeon Holliday, brigade surgeon; Capt. J. P. Way, commissary. The other members of my staff were relieved from duty while I was under arrest and their places were supplied by W. A. Mobley, acting assistant adjutant-general; W. W. Updegraff and Capt. S. B. Wheat, aides-de-camp, who were with me on the field at the battle near Westport, on Sunday, the 23d instant, and displayed great bravery in that engagement.

I have the honor to remain, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. M. FISHBACK,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. JOHN T. MORTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 88.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY IN THE FIELD,
Camp No. 10, Dardanelle, Ark., September 6, 1864.

I have the honor to report leaving Camden on the 28th ultimo. The cavalry being at Princeton, I assumed command on the 29th and started in the direction of Little Rock. When at a point within seven miles of Benton I diverged with the column to the left, taking a northwesterly direction, sending General J. F. Fagan across the Saline River to make

a demonstration toward Little Rock and at the same time protect my right flank. On the 5th instant he joined me, bringing up the rear. I reached the Arkansas River at Dardanelle to-day. General Marmaduke's command has already crossed and will hold the front until the trains are over. Colonel Harrison's brigade delayed so long in coming that I could not wait for it, and left orders for him to report for duty to the commander of the District of Arkansas if he did not arrive at Princeton within three days after my leaving. There is a small Federal force at Lewisburg, and some scouting parties were in this neighborhood on the north side of the river to-day. I have some sick from the effects of the summer campaign, but the troops are in the very best of spirits. I communicated with Brigadier-General Shelby while at Princeton.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STERLING PRICE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF MISSOURI,
Indian Ford, on Current River,
Six Miles above Pittman's Ferry, Mo., Camp No. 21,
September 19, 1864.

To-day we have entered the State of Missouri with our forces in fine health and spirits. We found the roads very rough and bad, but have not suffered much from that cause. Our strength is nearly 8,000 armed and 4,000 unarmed men—Fagan's division much the largest, Marmaduke's next, and Shelby two brigades. Parties of Federals were encountered by our advance, who are now pursuing them. I learned from General Shelby yesterday that 3,000 or 4,000 re-enforcements went to Little Rock; part of Smith's corps.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STERLING PRICE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ARMY HEADQUARTERS,
Camp No. 60, Boonsborough, Washington County, Ark.,
November 2, 1864.

I have the honor to report my arrival at this point last night, being unable from the number of forces brought against me to maintain my column in Missouri, encumbered as it was by unarmed men and undisciplined recruits. Entering the State of Missouri from the southeast in Ripley County, I marched northward in three columns, reuniting at Fredericktown; then moved on and carried Ironton and Pilot Knob, making a full reconnaissance as far as Saint Louis County, destroying the Iron Mountain Railroad and southwest branch of the Pacific Railroad; then turned northwest, striking the Pacific Railroad at Franklin. From that the railroad was destroyed at various points westward and the crossings of the Meramec and Moreau Rivers forced until the enemy were driven into their works at Jefferson City. From positive information received of the forces there my troops were drawn off and moved on Boonville, where a small force surrendered; thence west toward Lexing-

ton, meantime throwing a force on Glasgow and Sedalia and capturing both. At Lexington I met General Blunt's forces of Missouri, Kansas, and Colorado troops, and drove them back toward Independence, they contesting the crossing of the Blue very fiercely. Here, from intercepted dispatches and other sources, I learned that a heavy force under Generals A. J. Smith, McNeil, Sanborn, and others were establishing their lines about thirty miles south and parallel to my line of march and the Missouri River, while General Rosecrans with a heavy column of infantry—in all about 30,000 strong—were following as fast as the impaired state of the roads would admit, and I was obliged, after forcing the enemy into Westport, to fall back southward. They were thus enabled to mass their forces on my column, and when south of the Osage by the rapidity of their marches were enabled to come suddenly upon my rear and strike a severe blow, capturing several pieces of artillery and between 300 and 400 prisoners, including Generals Marmaduke and Cabell, and Colonels Slemons and Crandall. The enemy followed as far as Newtonia, where they were signally repulsed, being driven for three miles with much loss, since which time they have not been heard from as advancing.

The details of this expedition, with casualties, will be given in a future report in full. On account of the broken-down condition of the stock and scarcity of forage I will divide the command, crossing the Arkansas River at different points.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, yours, &c.,

STERLING PRICE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ARMY HEADQUARTERS,
Camp No. 75, at Boggy Depot, C. N., November 18, 1864.

On the 2d instant I forwarded from Boonsborough, Ark., a synopsis of my campaign in Missouri, which I dispatched by special courier to Washington. As it may not have reached you, I inclose an official copy of it.* Since then I have moved my command by slow marches, crossing the Arkansas River below the mouth of the Canadian on the 7th instant, and through Perryville to this point, which I reached to-day. At Boonsborough, on the suggestion of General Fagan, I detached two of his brigades (McCray's and Dobbin's), along with Freeman's brigade, of Marmaduke's division, to take the route to Northeast Arkansas, with instructions to collect all stragglers and deserters, and report south of the Arkansas River, at or near Washington, by the 15th, 20th, and 25th days of December, respectively.

On the 9th instant I also approved an order of General Fagan to send Slemons' and Cabell's brigades to Arkansas, with permission to furlough the men until December 10, at which date the former will rendezvous at Miller's Bluff and the latter at Spring Hill. At the same time I sent Colonel Tyler's brigade ahead, which will march by Doaksville, while I, with General Shelby's division and General Clark's brigade, will march south to Texas, taking the Bonham road, General Fagan and escort going by Doaksville to Washington, Ark., to meet his command there. Since leaving Cane Hill my animals have lived

* See next, *ante*.

entirely on the dry grass found along the line of march, and very many have perished, and it is with difficulty that I am enabled to move my train. The men also have suffered much on account of want of breadstuffs and salt and the scarcity of beef-cattle, until lately partially relieved by the kindness of Generals Cooper and Stand Watie. General Maxey also is collecting supplies at Doaksville for those going that route. I shall be compelled to move my command slowly for several days until I get within the region of supplies and forage, when I will march eastward toward Clarksville, where instructions from General Smith can meet me, and unless otherwise instructed will continue toward Fulton.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.,

STERLING PRICE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, ARK., *December 28, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report of my operations in the late expedition into Missouri:

I regret to state that the report is meager and incomplete in many of its details, for the reason that Major-General Marmaduke and Brigadier-General Cabell, who bore so honorable and conspicuous a part in the greater part of the expedition, were captured before its close and are now prisoners in the hands of the enemy, while Major-General Fagan, who commanded the Arkansas troops who composed so large a portion of the forces engaged in it, has as yet been unable to make any report; neither have any been received from his subordinate commanders.

In conformity with the letter of instructions of General E. Kirby Smith of the 11th of August, 1864, I made immediate arrangements for a movement into Missouri, as concluded upon in my interview and conference with him upon that subject, with the cavalry forces in the District of Arkansas which was then under my command, being promised, in addition, the brigade of Louisiana cavalry commanded by Colonel Harrison, estimated at 1,500 strong. At the same time information in full detail of the proposed movement, of the routes intended to be pursued, and probable time when it would be made was without delay sent by me to Brigadier-General Shelby, who then commanded in Northeastern Arkansas, with instructions to make an attack, when in his judgment he should deem it advisable, upon Devall's Bluff and the railroad between Little Rock and the White River in possession of the enemy, and by diverting their attention from my own movements enable me to cross the Lower Arkansas—the route then proposed—and unite our forces without danger of failure. These instructions were carried out in full by General Shelby and resulted in his attack upon the railroad, terminating in the most complete success, over 400 Federals being captured, 300 killed and wounded, six forts taken and destroyed, ten miles of railroad destroyed, as well as vast quantities of forage, &c., full particulars of which are contained in the accompanying report of General Shelby. This exploit was one of the most brilliant of the war and cast additional luster upon the well-earned fame of that gallant general and the men and officers under his command.

It was part of the plan concluded upon that I should cross the Arkansas River about the 20th of August with the troops under my immediate command, but from delay in receiving the necessary ordnance stores I was unable to do so. Finally the required complement was received on the 27th, and on the 28th of August I was relieved from the command of the District of Arkansas, crossed the Ouachita River, and on the 29th arrived at Princeton, where the divisions of Fagan and Marmaduke were, and assumed command of all the cavalry in the District of Arkansas, according to the instructions of General E. Kirby Smith above referred to. In the meantime, owing to the delay in starting, I was of the opinion that the enemy had become informed of my intended line of march, and I concluded that I would cross the Arkansas River at the most feasible point north of Little Rock and south of Fort Smith, taking into consideration the probable means of obtaining forage and subsistence.

On the 30th I accordingly took up my line of march in the direction of Little Rock and arrived that afternoon at Tulip, a distance of nine miles. Colonel Harrison's brigade had not yet arrived, but as I could no longer delay I left instructions at Princeton directing him if he should arrive there within three days to follow on and form a junction with me, giving him information of the route I should travel; but in case he did not reach that place within that time that he should then report to the commanding general of the District of Arkansas. Colonel Harrison did not take part in the expedition. On the morning of the 31st I resumed my line of march in the same direction as on the previous day, and continued on the same until I arrived within seven miles of Benton, when I diverged to the left, taking a northwest direction, sending Major-General Fagan across the Saline River to make a demonstration toward Little Rock and at the same time protect my right flank. On the 5th of September he rejoined me, bringing up the rear.

I reached Dardanelle on the 6th day of September. The country through which I had passed was hilly and in some parts mountainous, sparsely settled, but plenty of forage and subsistence had been obtained. The Arkansas River being fordable at this point, on the 7th I crossed it with the command and train and marched to Dover, a distance of fourteen miles. Major-General Marmaduke with his division and a portion of his train had already crossed it before my arrival, thus covering the crossing of the remaining portion of the army.

At Princeton verbal and written communications had been sent to Brigadier-General Shelby apprising him of the change of route and directing him to form a junction with me at Batesville, but up to this time had received no information from him of his movements or position. I resumed my line of march in the direction of the last-mentioned place, Major-General Fagan, with his command, marching along the Springfield road, and Major-General Marmaduke's headquarters and train on the Clinton road, marching by separate roads on account of the scarcity of forage and for the purpose of ridding that section of the country of deserters and Federal jayhawkers, as they are termed—*i. e.*, robbers and murderers—with which that country is infested. These bands, however, dispersed and took refuge in the mountains at the approach of the army, although several of them were killed and a small number taken prisoners. On arriving at Little Red River on the 10th, still without information of the position or movements of General Shelby, I dispatched an officer of known skill and daring to communicate with him, directing that he should unite himself with the rest of the command at once.

On the 12th I arrived at a point on White River eighteen miles above Batesville, and having received information that Brigadier-General Shelby, with his command, was at Powhatan, about sixty-four miles northeast of Batesville and on the selected route to Missouri, I adopted the town of Pocahontas as the point of rendezvous, and directed Major-General Marmaduke, with his own command, his train, and that of headquarters, to march to that point direct, while I proceeded with my staff to Batesville, and from thence to Powhatan, while Major-General Fagan, with his division, who had arrived at Batesville, marched to Powhatan on the left.

I arrived on the 13th of September and found Brigadier-General Shelby there with a portion of his command. The next day I reached Pocahontas, a distance of 356 miles from Camden, and there the remaining portion of Shelby's command reported, including the brigades of Jackman, McCray, and Dobbin. In fine, the whole army was concentrated. The country over which I had passed was rugged and mountainous in the extreme, and had damaged the transportation to some extent; but it had already been or was on the point of being repaired, and on the other hand, by adopting the routes marched over sufficient forage and subsistence had been obtained. The towns and villages through which I had passed had been robbed, pillaged, burned, or otherwise destroyed by the enemy, and were nearly deserted by the former inhabitants; in fact, the whole country presented but a scene of devastation.

Upon arriving at Pocahontas I immediately proceeded to organize the army, which was completed on the 18th, as follows: Fagan's division, commanded by Maj. Gen. J. F. Fagan, was composed of Brig. Gen. W. L. Cabell's brigade, Colonel Slemons' brigade, Colonel McCray's brigade, Colonel Dobbin's brigade, Colonels Lyles' and Rogan's commands, and Captain Anderson's battalion. Marmaduke's division, commanded by Maj. Gen. J. S. Marmaduke, was composed of Brig. Gen. John B. Clark, jr.'s, brigade, Colonel Freeman's brigade, Colonel Kitchen's regiment, and Lieut. Col. R. C. Wood's battalion. Shelby's division, commanded by Brig. Gen. J. O. Shelby, consisted of Colonel Shanks' brigade, Colonel Jackman's brigade, and Colonel Coleman's command.

Having determined to invade Missouri in three columns, Major-General Fagan, with his division, was ordered to march to Fredericktown, Mo., by the way of Martinsburg, Reeves' Station, and Greenville. Major-General Marmaduke, with his division, was ordered to march to the vicinity of Fredericktown, to the right of the route to be followed by Fagan's division, as above designated, varying from it from ten to thirty miles, or as nearly within those limits as might be practicable on account of roads and forage. Brigadier-General Shelby, with his command, was to march to the vicinity of Fredericktown by a route to the left of General Fagan's, varying from it from ten to twenty miles as nearly as practicable on account of roads and forage. The headquarters to march with the center column. At Fredericktown the three divisions were ordered to form a junction. A map of the route to be followed was furnished each of the division commanders. The most stringent orders were issued against straggling and pillaging under the severest penalties, and the division commanders earnestly enjoined to use their utmost endeavors to have the order carried into effect in every particular and without delay.

On the 19th of September the army marched in the order above designated, and on that day I entered Missouri with nearly 12,000 men, of whom 8,000 were armed, and fourteen pieces of artillery, and on the 24th day of September reached Fredericktown, Mo., with the center column,

Brigadier-General Shelby, with his division, was in advance, passing in his route through Doniphan and Patterson, while Major-General Marmaduke, whose route was by Poplar Bluff, Castorville, and Dallas, had not yet come up. On the 19th, before Brigadier-General Shelby reached Doniphan, news of the arrival of the army having been received, a force of the enemy composed of a portion of the Twelfth Missouri (Federal) Cavalry,* then occupying the place, withdrew and retreated to Ponder's Mill, burning the houses of citizens as they passed along, where they were overtaken the next day by scouting parties sent in pursuit and were routed with a loss of a lieutenant and 3 men killed, 4 wounded, and 6 prisoners, besides several horses and small-arms captured. Our loss, 2 killed and 5 wounded.

On the 22d Brigadier-General Shelby attacked the town of Patterson, but the garrison having received information of the approach hastily evacuated the place with a loss of 28 killed and several wounded; also telegraph battery and operator captured. No loss on our part. On the 25th I remained at Fredericktown awaiting the arrival of Marmaduke's division, which came up that evening within eight miles of the place. Major-General Marmaduke on his route had a few skirmishes with the Federal militia, killing and wounding 4 and capturing 11.

Colonel Jeffers, of Marmaduke's division, had, before the arrival of the army at Pocahontas, been sent with his regiment to Bloomfield, Mo., which the enemy evacuated at his approach, whereupon he attacked their rear, killing a number and capturing arms and six wagon loads of army stores, he rejoined his brigade (Clark's) on the 24th; detached again on the 25th, he attacked and by a gallant charge drove the enemy out of the town of old Jackson. (For particulars see Brigadier-General Clark's report.)

I received at Fredericktown satisfactory information that the strength of the enemy at Ironton was about 1,500 and that the Federal General A. J. Smith was encamped about ten miles from Saint Louis with his corps, composed of about 8,000 infantry, on the Saint Louis and Iron Mountain Railroad. I immediately issued orders to Brigadier-General Shelby to proceed at once with his division by the way of Farmington to a point on the Saint Louis and Iron Mountain Railroad, where there were three fine bridges in close proximity to each other, and to destroy the railroad there and the bridges; after effecting that object to fall back in the direction of Ironton and Pilot Knob, which would effectually prevent General A. J. Smith from re-enforcing the garrison at those places, while I would attack and take them with the divisions of Major-Generals Fagan and Marmaduke. General Shelby proceeded to the point indicated and performed the duty assigned him in the most complete and effective manner, destroying the splendid bridge at Irondale as well as the three bridges mentioned, tearing up miles upon miles of the track, burning the ties, rails, &c. (For full particulars reference is made to the accompanying report of Brigadier-General Shelby.)

On the morning of the 26th, being rejoined by Major-General Marmaduke's division, I proceeded at an early hour with Fagan's and Marmaduke's divisions in the direction of Ironton and Pilot Knob, at the same time sending forward a portion of Fagan's division to take and hold a difficult pass in that direction between two mountains within three or four miles of Ironton. This was effected rapidly and with success. That evening I sent forward the remainder of his division, leaving his train at Saint Francis Creek, six miles from Ironton, where forage could

* It was the Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

be obtained for the animals and where I encamped for the night with the rest of the command. That evening Major-General Fagan drove in the Federal pickets at Arcadia and took position before the town for the night. The next morning he drove the enemy from Arcadia, where they abandoned a very strong position, through Ironton, where he also took a strong fort in the most gallant and brilliant manner. The enemy took refuge behind their fortifications at Pilot Knob. Having received such information as appeared to be perfectly reliable concerning the character and strength of the fortifications as induced me to believe that the place could be taken without great loss, I accordingly directed Major-General Marmaduke to take possession of Shepherd's Mountain, which was west of the fortifications and completely commanded them. This was most satisfactorily accomplished and his artillery placed in position on the mountain. Major-General Fagan formed on the south and east. Skirmishing took place all the day and heavy firing of artillery from the enemy until about 2 p. m., when a charge was ordered and made in the most gallant manner, officers and men vying with each other in both divisions of unsurpassed bravery, charging up nearly to the muzzles of the enemy's cannon.

Where all acted as heroes it seems almost invidious to make any exception, but I must be allowed to call attention to the courage and gallantry of Brigadier-General Cabell in leading his men to the assault, having his horse killed under him within forty yards of the fort.

But the information I had received in regard to the strength of the fortifications proved totally incorrect. Our troops were repulsed, and it being too late to renew the assault they were withdrawn beyond the reach of the enemy's guns and preparations were made for a renewal of the assault on the next day. I had dispatched a courier on the morning of the 27th to Brigadier-General Shelby informing him of the proposed operations and directing him to rejoin the main army to assist in the attack, and on the evening of the 27th another courier was dispatched to him informing him of the capture of Arcadia and Ironton, and of the repulse at Pilot Knob, and of my design to renew the attack on the following morning; and hoping that the courier would meet him on the way, instructed him to join me, as also the route to pursue. Neither of these communications, as it appears, were received by Brigadier-General Shelby, who, having heard that there was a force of the enemy at Potosi, had left the railroad and marched to attack them at that place, which was captured by him with its garrison of 150 Federals, arms, ammunition, &c. The depot of the railroad at that place, with seven fine cars, was also destroyed. (For full particulars reference is made to the accompanying report of Brigadier-General Shelby.)

The enemy at Pilot Knob on the night following the first attack evacuated the fort, blowing up the magazine and leaving in my possession 16 pieces of artillery, a large number of small arms, a large amount of army stores, consisting of bales of blankets, hundreds of barrels of flour, many tierces of bacon, a great quantity of coffee, &c. After destroying the artillery, which I could not take with me, and distributing such of the stores as were needed among the troops, I moved my command twelve miles on the road the retreating army had gone, sending Marmaduke forward in pursuit in command of his own and Shelby's division, which had rejoined the command. Untiring pursuit was made night and day, but it was not until the evening of the following day (the 27th [29th]) that he was overtaken, owing to the natural difficulties presented by the country over which the enemy retreated. Major-General Marmaduke, who was in advance, fought him until an hour

before sunset, when Shelby was thrown in front, and the fight was continued until darkness put an end to the combat. The enemy having thrown up fortifications during the night, it was deemed advisable not to renew the attack and the forces were withdrawn. (The particulars in full of the pursuit are contained in the accompanying reports of Brigadier-Generals Shelby and Clark.)

My loss in this report I cannot give, as I have no report from Fagan's division, but the loss in Marmaduke's division was 14 officers and 80 men killed and wounded, and the loss in Fagan's was doubtless greater.

While at Ironton, receiving information that the Federal force in Saint Louis far exceeded my own two to one, and knowing the city to be strongly fortified, I determined to move as fast as possible on Jefferson City, destroying the railroad as I went, with a hope to be able to capture that city with its troops and munitions of war. I arrived at Richwoods on the 30th, having passed through Potosi. Lieutenant Christian, whom I had previously sent to the Mississippi River before I left Camden for the purpose of obtaining gun caps, joined me at this place, bringing me 150,000. Lieutenant Christian is a most energetic and efficient officer and deserves especial notice.

Major-General Fagan sent 300 men to De Soto to destroy the depot at that place, which was effected, and the militia who had gathered there in some numbers at the same time scattered. At the same time General Cabell was sent with his brigade to cut the Pacific Railroad east of Franklin, which he did effectually, at the same time burning the depot in that town. On the 29th Colonel Burbridge and Lieutenant-Colonel Wood were detached from his command by Major-General Marmaduke and sent to Cuba to destroy the railroad depot at that place, which they succeeded in doing. The divisions of Marmaduke and Shelby tore up several miles of the southwest branch of the Pacific Railroad. (For full particulars see reports of Brigadier-Generals Shelby and Clark.) Lieutenant-Colonel Wood, of Marmaduke's division, destroyed the important bridge over the Moselle. These two divisions were sent forward in the direction of Union, which was attacked and captured by Brigadier-General Clark, killing 32 and wounding 70 of the Federal garrison.

On the 2d of October Clark's brigade, of Marmaduke's division, took possession of the town of Washington without opposition, and destroyed the Pacific Railroad about two miles from that place. On the 3d a train was captured at Miller's Station with a large amount of clothing and 400 Sharps rifles, and on the same evening the town of Hermann was taken possession of after a slight opposition (the enemy abandoning a 6-pounder iron gun) by Clark's brigade. (For full particulars see report of Brigadier-General Clark with the accompanying report of Colonel Greene.) On the 4th of October Major-General Marmaduke sent a force of 400 men with one gun, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Wood, for the purpose of destroying the Pacific Railroad bridge over the Gasconade River, which he effected. Linn was captured with about 100 prisoners and as many arms by a portion of Shelby's division.

On the 6th Brigadier-General Shelby sent a force under Colonel Shanks to destroy the bridge over the Osage on the Pacific Railroad, which was successfully accomplished. A passage was then forced by him across the Osage six miles below Castle Rock. The enemy disputed the passage warmly, but in vain. In this action the gallant Colonel Shanks received a severe, if not a mortal wound, and, left in the hands of friends to be cared for, he afterward fell into the possession of the enemy, and is reported to have since died, a loss to be greatly deplored.

Ever foremost in battle and last in the retreat, his death would be regretted by all who mourn the loss of the good and the brave. At the same time that Colonel Shanks forced the passage of the Osage as stated, Colonel Gordon, of the same division, forced its passage at Castle Rock, and the division bivouacked that night seven miles from Jefferson City.

On the next morning Major-General Fagan was thrown in advance with his division, and on the march came upon the enemy about five miles from Jefferson City in large force. A hotly-contested battle ensued, but the enemy were gradually driven back to the Moreau Creek, where, being re-enforced, they again made an obstinate resistance, but were finally routed and forced to seek shelter in their intrenchments, Fagan occupying the heights in full view of the city. On this occasion Major-General Fagan handled his troops with marked skill and ability under my own immediate observation. Night approaching I determined to move my forces two miles south of the city to a point where water and forage were abundant, and I accordingly did so and encamped for the night. I had received positive information that the enemy were 12,000 strong in the city, and that 3,000 more had arrived on the opposite bank of the river by the North Missouri Railroad before I withdrew my troops to the encampment selected, whereupon I gave immediate instructions to Brigadier-General Shelby to send a sufficient force to burn the bridges and destroy the railroad on the west of Jefferson City in the direction of California, the county seat of Moniteau County, and after consultation with my general officers I determined not to attack the enemy's intrenchments, as they outnumbered me nearly two to one and were strongly fortified, but to move my command in the direction of Kansas, as instructed in my original orders, hoping to be able to capture a sufficient number of arms to arm my unarmed men at Boonville, Sedalia, Lexington, and Independence, places which I intended to occupy with my troops en route.

The next day I accordingly took up my line of march in the direction of Kansas, and upon leaving Jefferson City was followed by General McNeil, who made an attack upon my rear guard (Fagan's division), but was easily repulsed. Brigadier-General Shelby, who with his division constituted my advance, reached California on the 8th, having sent a portion of his command on before him to destroy the Pacific Railroad at that place, which he did, destroying track and bridges, &c. Pushing rapidly on to Boonville, he by a rapid charge drove in their pickets, and the garrison taking refuge in their defenses, Brigadier-General Shelby, disposing such of his forces as he had with him in a manner to prevent the arrival of any re-enforcements, waited until his artillery could come up. In the meantime propositions for the surrender of the town were made to him, which were accepted, and accordingly the place with its garrison, stores, &c., were delivered into his hands. (For particulars reference is made to his accompanying report.)

I followed on with the divisions of Major-Generals Fagan and Marmaduke, and encamped on the night of the 8th fourteen miles from Jefferson City, and on the 9th marched through and beyond California, making twenty-six miles. On the 10th I arrived at Boonville with the rest of the command. My reception was enthusiastic in the extreme. Old and young, men, women, and children, vied in their salutations and in ministering to the wants and comforts of my wearied and war-worn soldiers. About 300 prisoners were captured at Boonville, with arms, ammunition, and many stores, which were distributed among the soldiers. On the 11th, hearing of the approach of the Federal General

McNeil with a cavalry force estimated at 2,500 men, for the purpose of attacking Boonville by the Tipton road, I selected my position about half a mile from the river and placed the divisions of Major-Generals Fagan and Marmaduke in line of battle to receive him. The enemy attacked them, but was easily driven back with considerable loss, and was afterward pursued by a portion of Fagan's division and Jackman's brigade a distance of twenty-one miles from Boonville with heavy loss, in spite of obstinate resistance and the ruggedness of the country over which the pursuit was made. (For full particulars, so far as the action of his own troops were concerned, see the report of Colonel Jackman, accompanying.)

Captain Anderson, who reported to me that day with a company of about 100 men, was immediately sent to destroy the North Missouri Railroad. At the same time Quantrill was sent with the men under his command to destroy the Hannibal and Saint Joseph Railroad, to prevent the enemy, if possible, from throwing their forces in my front from Saint Louis. These officers I was informed afterward did effect some damage to the roads, but none of any material advantage, and totally failed in the main object proposed, which was to destroy the large railroad bridge that was in the end of Saint Charles County.

I moved that evening from Boonville to Chouteau Springs on my proposed route, a distance of eleven miles, having recruited at Boonville between 1,200 and 1,500 men, mostly unarmed. That night receiving information that there was a large number of arms (amounting to 5,000) stored in the City Hall at Glasgow, I sent Brigadier-General Clark, of Marmaduke's division, with his own brigade and 500 of Jackman's brigade, with orders to cross the river at Arrow Rock and attack the place the next morning at daylight and capture it, at the same time sending Brigadier-General Shelby with a small portion of his division and a section of his artillery to attack the town from the west side of the river at the same hour, to divert the attention of the enemy and protect their advance under the cover of the fire of his artillery. Owing to unforeseen difficulties in crossing the river Brigadier-General Clark was unable to commence the attack for one hour after Brigadier-General Shelby had engaged them. The place was surrendered, but not until after the City Hall was destroyed and the arms consumed by fire. By the capture of this place, however, we obtained between 800 or 900 prisoners, about 1,200 small-arms, about the same number of overcoats, 150 horses, 1 steam-boat, and large amounts of underclothing. This enterprise was a great success, effected with but comparatively small loss on our side, and reflects great honor on all the parties concerned in it. The captured prisoners were paroled, such of the ordnance and other stores captured as could not be carried were distributed, and the remaining portion, together with the steam-boat, burned. (For full particulars reference is made to the accompanying reports of Brigadier-Generals Shelby and Clark.) In the awards of praise contained in [them] the general commanding cordially concurs.

On the night of the 13th I encamped at Mr. Marshall's, marching fourteen miles, and on the next day marched to Jonesborough—a distance of eight miles—where I was joined by Major-General Fagan, who had been left behind at the La Mine. I there ordered Brig. Gen. M. Jeff. Thompson, then commanding Shelby's old brigade, to take with him a force of not less than 800 or 1,000 men and one section of artillery by Longwood, and from thence to Sedalia, to attack the Federal force at that place if he should deem it advisable and prudent. This order was promptly and completely carried out by Brigadier-General Thomp-

son. The place, though strongly fortified and well garrisoned, was carried by a bold and daring assault and fell into our hands with over 200 prisoners, who were paroled, several hundred stand of arms, many pistols, and several wagon-loads of goods suitable to soldiers. (For particulars reference is made to the accompanying reports of Generals Shelby and Thompson.) The latter withdrew on the approach of the enemy.

On the 15th I reached Keiser's, having passed through Marshall, marching seventeen miles, where I remained two days awaiting the arrival of Brigadier-General Clark, for whose safety I began to entertain fears, inasmuch as information had been received that the enemy were on my left flank and in my rear in large force. Previous to the attack on Sedalia the large and magnificent bridge on the La Mine River on the Pacific Railroad had been destroyed by Lieut. James Wood, of Elliott's battalion, who had been sent there by Brigadier-General Shelby for that purpose. On the 17th I received information that the enemy (Kansas troops) had entered Lexington on the 16th. On the 17th I received news of the capture of Sedalia by Brigadier-General Thompson. On the 18th, having been joined by Brigadier-General Shelby's division and Clark's brigade, of Marmaduke's division, I marched to Waverly, a distance of twenty-two miles.

On leaving Pocahontas I had sent an agent into Saint Louis of great intelligence and tact to ascertain the strength of the enemy at that city, with directions to report to me if possible at Potosi. He was, however, so closely watched that he could not join me until after I had passed that city. Upon overtaking me he informed me that I would be pursued by 24,000 men from Saint Louis, 15,000 from Jefferson City, which, with the forces in my front from Kansas, he believed to be the entire force with which I would have to contend. I then abandoned my former determination to issue an address to the people calling upon them to rally to me, as they were already pouring in on me so rapidly that I knew I would not be able to protect and feed them, and as it would require that my army should be kept together to protect them on a rapid and dangerous retreat from the State.

At daybreak on the morning of the 19th I moved from Waverly in the direction of Lexington, Brigadier-General Shelby's division in the advance, and having received information that Generals Blunt, Lane, and Jennison, with between 3,000 and 4,000 Federals (Colorado, Kansas, and Missouri Federal troops), were at Lexington, and fearing that they might make a junction with McNeil and A. J. Smith, who were at Sedalia and Salt Fork, I made a flank movement to the left after crossing the Tabo, so as to intercept their line of march. The advance, under Shelby, met them about 2 p. m., and a battle immediately ensued. For a time the Federals fought well and resisted strenuously, but finally giving way, they were pressed by our troops, driven well past Lexington, and pursued on the road to Independence until night put an end to the combat. That night the enemy evacuated Lexington in great haste and confusion. Shelby's old brigade, under General M. Jeff. Thompson, bivouacked that night in the suburbs of the town. I encamped at General Shields' farm, three miles south of Lexington, marching that day twenty-six miles. On the morning of the 20th I moved west in the same direction as before to Fire Creek Prairie, a distance of twenty-two miles, where I encamped. Information reached me that the enemy had fallen back to the Little Blue. On the 21st I resumed my line of march to the Little Blue on the Independence road, Major-General Marmaduke's division in the front, whose advance

soon came upon the enemy's pickets, who, being driven across the Blue, destroyed the bridge as they crossed. A ford half mile below the bridge was seized by our troops and Marmaduke's division crossed it. His advance (Colonel Lawther's regiment) soon came upon the enemy, who were strongly posted behind a stone fence in superior numbers. Lawther's regiment was driven back and was hotly pursued by the foe, when they were re-enforced by Colonel Greene with about 150 men. A fierce engagement ensued with varying success, Colonel Greene stubbornly contesting every inch of ground, when Wood's battalion arrived, and the enemy gave way, but being re-enforced again renewed the attack, when, as the ammunition of our troops engaged (who still manfully resisted with success the far-superior numbers of the enemy) was about to become exhausted, Colonel Kitchen's regiment arrived to their relief. The enemy again fell back to their former strong position.

Hearing of the critical condition of Major-General Marmaduke's division, I had sent orders to Brigadier-General Shelby to march rapidly to his relief, who accordingly hastened to the scene of action with his division, and arrived there at the time when the enemy had taken refuge in their first position. An immediate attack was made upon them and a furious battle ensued, but the enemy were finally forced from their position and they retreated. Brigadier-General Shelby now taking the lead drove them in a stubborn running fight on foot (his men having been dismounted) for seven miles and beyond Independence. (For full particulars of this fight reference is made to the reports of Brigadier-Generals Shelby and Clark, and to that of Colonel Greene, accompanying the latter.)

In this action Major-General Marmaduke acted with distinguished gallantry, having not less than two horses shot under him. Brigadier-General Clark, of his division, also exhibited great bravery and skill, while Colonel Greene, by the manner in which he handled his regiment against vastly-superior forces flushed with previous success, beating them back with his handful of men and stubbornly contesting every inch of ground until assistance came to his relief, as well as the personal courage exhibited by him, justly excited the admiration of his superior officers. Fagan's division under my orders supported Shelby, but were not immediately engaged.

I encamped that night in Independence, having marched twenty-six miles, the troops being engaged with the enemy most of the time and driving them before them. On the evening of the 21st Captain Williams, of Brigadier-General Shelby's division, who had been sent on recruiting service by him, rejoined his command with about 600 men, capturing on his route the town of Carrollton with 300 prisoners, and armed his entire command. On the morning of the 22d I left Independence. The enemy had fallen back to Big Blue, on the Kansas City road, to a position strong by nature and strengthened by fortifications, upon which all their art had been exhausted, and where they had been joined by General Curtis and his forces, thus increasing Blunt's army to between 6,000 and 8,000 men. Receiving this information I determined to advance on the Santa Fé road, which had been obstructed by felling trees, and did so, Brigadier-General Shelby's division in front, who advanced, detaching Jackman and sending him on the Kansan City road to engage the enemy, then skirmishing with the pickets. Brigadier-General Shelby crossed the Big Blue with the remainder of his division, meeting some opposition from the enemy, which was soon overcome. After crossing the Big Blue he engaged the enemy to cover the crossing and the passage of the train.

Brigadier-General Thompson with his brigade, except Gordon's regiment, pressed the enemy to near the town of Westport, where he was ordered to fall back to the Blue. Colonel Gordon, with his regiment, who had been retained to guard the left, soon became engaged and was sorely pressed by overpowering numbers, when he was rejoined by Jackman, and, gallantly charging, they repulsed the enemy, capturing a 24-pounder howitzer, and pursued them some distance, inflicting upon the enemy heavy loss. A large force of the enemy came out from Westport and a severe fight ensued, the enemy obstinately endeavoring to regain the gun which they had lost, but they were sternly resisted, and finally the arrival of Brigadier-General Thompson and night put an end to the conflict. (For full particulars reference is made to the accompanying report of Brigadier-General Shelby.)

Two flags were also captured, which were presented me on the battle-field by Captains McCoy and Wood, of Gordon's regiment, who had taken them from the enemy with their own hands.

In the meantime other forces had engaged me in the rear. Having received information that other bodies of the enemy were pursuing me, I had directed pickets to be placed at the Little Blue to give notice of their approach. This had been done by Major-General Fagan, and being advised on the morning of the 22d that the enemy had attacked and driven in his pickets, he dispatched Brigadier-General Cabell to drive back the enemy, which he succeeded in doing, but on his return on coming out of Independence the enemy struck Cabell a blow in the flank, cutting off 300 or 400 men and capturing 2 pieces of artillery. Major-General Marmaduke's division, which formed the rear of the army, became engaged with the same enemy about half an hour before sundown. The division was then about two miles from Independence. The advance of the enemy was checked by our troops, who then fell back about half a mile and took a new position, which the enemy attacked with increased fierceness, driving our troops steadily back until a late hour of the night and in almost impenetrable darkness. (For particulars reference is made to the accompanying report of Brigadier-General Clark.) I encamped that night on the battle-field near Westport in line of battle, having marched twelve miles, the troops almost constantly engaging the enemy the whole distance.

On the morning of the 23d I took up my line of march, and in a short time discovered the enemy in position on the prairie. The train had been sent forward on the Fort Scott road. I had instructed Major-General Marmaduke to resist the advance of the enemy, who was in his rear, if possible, as he was on the same road as the train. Brigadier-General Shelby immediately attacked the enemy, assisted by Major-General Fagan with two brigades of Arkansas troops, and though they resisted most stubbornly and contested every point of the approach, drove them six or seven miles into Westport. In the meantime Major-General Marmaduke, who was to my right and rear, being attacked with great fierceness by an overwhelming force of the enemy, after a most strenuous resistance, his ammunition being exhausted, had to fall back before the foe. (For full particulars reference is made to the accompanying report of Brigadier-General Clark.)

Being at that time near Westport, and in full view of Generals Fagan and Shelby and their commands, I received information that my train, which was in front and on the right of the Fort Scott road, was threatened by the enemy, some 2,000 or 2,500 strong, who were moving on a line parallel to the Fort Scott road. I immediately sent the information to Major-General Fagan and Brigadier-General Shelby, and directed them

to fall back to the train as soon as they could do so with safety, which I would attempt to defend until they arrived. I immediately pushed forward to the front of the train with my escort and there formed in line of battle the unarmed men, which were present to the number of several thousand, throwing my escort and the whole number of armed men of Tyler's brigade, formed as skirmishers (the whole not exceeding more than 200), to the front of the enemy, and directing Brigadier-General Cabell, who arrived soon after, to hold the crossing of the creek on my left, sending forward at the same time for a portion of Colonel McCray's brigade, which was in advance of the train, and on his approach forming him in line of battle on the left flank of the enemy, which caused the enemy to fall back a considerable distance on the prairie. In the meantime the rear and flank of the commands of Major-General Fagan and Brigadier-General Shelby by the falling back of Major-General Marmaduke were uncovered, and the former in attempting to rejoin me was attacked by a large force of the enemy, but with the aid of Colonel Jackman and his brigade, who came to his assistance, and who acted so heroically and skillfully as to receive the thanks of Major-General Fagan on the field, the enemy were repulsed, while Brigadier-General Shelby in attempting to obey my instructions was attacked in the flank and his command thrown into some confusion, but rallied, repulsed the enemy, and rejoined me that evening, as did also Major-General Fagan. (Full details of this are contained in the accompanying reports of Brigadier-General Shelby and Colonel Jackman.) I encamped that night on the Middle Fork of Grand River, having marched twenty-four miles and the troops having been engaged with the enemy nearly all day. The number of the enemy's troops engaged that day exceeded 20,000 well-armed men, while I did not have 8,000 armed men.

On the morning of the 24th I moved with the command on the Fort Scott road to the Marais des Cygnes, where I encamped, having marched thirty-three miles, no enemy appearing. During the night I received information from Major-General Marmaduke, who was placed in charge of the approaches in front, that the enemy were threatening his pickets, and upon consultation with Major-General Marmaduke we were both of opinion that the enemy were marching upon our right by Mound City on a road parallel to the one on which we were. We were strengthened in that belief by a dispatch which had been captured from the commanding Federal officer at that place to his scouts, stationed near our then encampment, stating that he would be largely re-enforced that night, and that he wanted a sharp lookout [kept] for my army, and to give him the earliest information of the route on which I would travel and the direction. I also received at a late hour at night information from some new recruits who joined me, and who had traveled fifteen miles on the route I had traveled, that there was no enemy in my rear. On the morning of the 25th I resumed my march in the same direction as before, and I considered from the information I had received the night before that if I should encounter the enemy it would be in my front or on my right flank. Brigadier-General Shelby's division composed the advance, Major-Generals Fagan and Marmaduke's divisions composed the rear guard, Colonel Tyler's brigade to the right of the center of the train 400 yards, Brigadier-General Shelby's old brigade to the right of the front 400 yards, and Colonel Jackman's brigade to the immediate front.

On reaching Little Osage River I sent forward a direction to Brigadier General Shelby to fall back to my position in rear of Jackman's

brigade for the purpose of attacking and capturing Fort Scott, where I learned there were 1,000 negroes under arms. At the moment of his reaching me I received a dispatch from Major-General Marmaduke, in the rear, informing me that the enemy, 3,000 strong, were in sight of his rear, with lines still extending, and on the note Major-General Fagan had indorsed that he would sustain Major-General Marmaduke. I immediately ordered Brigadier-General Shelby to take his old brigade, which was on my immediate right, and return to the rear as rapidly as possible to support Major-Generals Fagan and Marmaduke. I immediately mounted my horse and rode back at a gallop, and after passing the rear of the train I met the divisions of Major-Generals Fagan and Marmaduke retreating in utter and indescribable confusion, many of them having thrown away their arms. They were deaf to all entreaties or commands, and in vain were all efforts to rally them. From them I received the information that Major-General Marmaduke, Brigadier-General Cabell, and Colonel Slemons, commanding brigade, had been captured, with 300 or 400 of their men and all their artillery (5 pieces).

Major-General Fagan and several of his officers, who had there joined me, assisted me in trying to rally the armed men, without success. I then ordered Brigadier-General Shelby to hold the enemy, who were pressing their success hotly and fiercely, in check if possible at the crossing of the Osage until the train could be placed in safety, which he succeeded in doing for several hours. I again formed the unarmed men, numbering several thousand, in line of battle on the prairie beyond the river. Major-General Fagan in the meantime had succeeded in rallying a portion of his forces, and assisted Brigadier-General Shelby in again holding the enemy in check upon the prairie and in front of the immense lines of unarmed men until night-fall, when I withdrew. The train having reached the Marmiton, a distance of ten miles, I there overtook it, having marched a distance of twenty-eight miles.

On the next morning, after destroying many wagons with broken-down teams that could not be replaced, I took up my line of march at 2 o'clock, there being but little forage in the neighborhood of my encampment. We marched over beautiful prairie roads, a distance of fifty-six miles, and encamped at Carthage, on Spring River, the nearest point that forage could be procured, as I was informed by Major General Fagan and Brigadier-General Shelby, who earnestly desired me to reach Spring River, as no forage could be procured short of it. The Federal prisoners I had with me became so much exhausted by fatigue that out of humanity I paroled them. (For full particulars of this action see the several reports of Brigadier-Generals Shelby and Clark and other accompanying reports.) On the next morning at 9 o'clock, after giving the men and animals time to rest and feed, I resumed my line of march and encamped on Shoal Creek, a distance of twenty-two miles. During the march a number of desertions took place among the Arkansas troops and new recruits. No enemy having appeared the morale of the troops had considerably improved.

On the morning of the 28th I resumed my line of march in the direction of Newtonia, Brigadier-General Shelby in advance, Major-Generals Fagan's and Marmaduke's divisions (the latter now commanded by Brigadier-General Clark) in the rear. On approaching Newtonia the advance of our forces was discovered by the Federal garrison, who commenced a retreat. On seeing this Shelby's advance endeavored to intercept them. The distance they had gained, however, was too great for this to be effected. They succeeded in killing the Federal Captain

Christian, a notorious bushwhacker, as it is termed—that is, robber and murderer—noted for his deeds of violence and blood. After passing over the prairie about four miles beyond Newtonia, Brigadier-General Shelby halted his command at the edge of the prairie in a skirt of timber and there encamped for the night. The other divisions of the army passed on beyond him and encamped in the proper positions they were to assume in the line of march the following day. Ere long our scouts brought the information the enemy were crossing the prairie in pursuit of us. Preparations were immediately made to receive him, and about 3 o'clock General Blunt, with 3,000 Federal cavalry, moved rapidly across the prairie in pursuit of us and made a furious onslaught upon our lines. He was engaged by Shelby, supported by a portion of Fagan's command. A short but obstinate combat ensued, when Blunt was repulsed and driven across the prairie three miles with heavy loss. This was the last we saw of the enemy. The army marched that day twenty-six miles and encamped. (For full particulars see General Shelby's report.) On the 29th we marched twenty-six miles and encamped on Sugar Creek five miles south of Pineville, passing through the town. No information was received in regard to the enemy. On the 30th and 31st we reached Maysville, near the Arkansas line; marched forty-three miles, and on the 1st of November I reached Boonsborough, or Cane Hill, as it is called, marching seventeen miles. There information was received by Major-General Fagan from Colonel Brooks that he had the town of Fayetteville, Ark., closely invested, and the Federal garrison forced to seek shelter within their inner fortifications, and asking for a sufficient number of men to enable him to capture the place and garrison. As this was a place of considerable importance to the Federals and its capture would be of great advantage to the cause, upon Major-General Fagan's earnest solicitation I ordered a detail of 500 men and two guns to be made for that purpose, which were furnished by General Shelby under Colonel Elliott, the two guns being furnished by Collins' battery. The expedition started to Fayetteville, formed a junction with Colonel Brooks, but before the place could be taken the approach of General Blunt with a large force of Federal cavalry caused the siege to be raised, and Colonel Elliott rejoined his command. Our march from Illinois River to Cane Hill was over a bad road, very rough and hilly, and rendered much worse than usual by the constant rains, consequently much of the stock became worn out and was abandoned on the route.

On the 3d I remained in camp. The weather was very bad, both snowing and raining during the day. I there received information that the Federal army at Little Rock had been greatly re-enforced by a portion of General Canby's command, and as it was necessary that I should here adopt the line of march I should pursue on my return to Arkansas, at district headquarters or elsewhere, as I should be directed, I determined not to risk the crossing of the Arkansas between Fort Smith and Little Rock, on which route I could not procure subsistence, forage, or grass in anything like sufficient quantity, but I decided to cross through the Indian country, where beef at least could be obtained, which would at least subsist my men for the few days it would require them to march until they would meet supplies, even if no salt or breadstuffs could be procured, while some grass could be obtained for the animals. In addition, the route across the Arkansas River below Fort Smith would be over a rough, hilly, and in many parts mountainous country that the stock in its then condition would be unable to travel over, while the route through the Indian country would be over a level and beautiful

prairie country traversed by good roads. Again, by the route below Fort Smith I would expose my whole army to be destroyed by a joint attack from Federal forces detached from the heavy garrison there and acting conjointly with large forces from Little Rock, which could easily be spared for the purpose, and which would in every probability take place, as information of my adopting that line of route would certainly reach them, and the slowness with which I would necessarily have to travel would give them ample time to make all necessary preparations. I was, furthermore, induced to come to this conclusion from the fact that it coincided with my instructions, in the propriety and reasonableness of which my own judgment fully concurred. Colonels Freeman, Dobbin, and McCray were ordered to return such of their men as still remained with their colors to the place where they had raised their commands in order to collect the absentees together and bring them within our lines during the month of December, if possible, and on the 4th day of November I took up my line of march with the balance of my command through the Indian Territory in the direction of Boggy Depot. On the 13th I arrived at Perryville, in the Indian Nation, a distance of 119 [miles], where I met with three wagons with supplies, and encamped, remaining over one day to rest and recruit my men. I had marched carefully and slowly, stopping to graze my stock whenever an opportunity offered. On the 14th General Shelby, at his own request, was left behind on the Canadian to recruit. On the 10th Cabell's brigade was furloughed, as also the brigade formerly commanded by Colonel Slemons, who was captured. On the 21st of November I arrived at Clarksville, where I received an order from Major-General Magruder to march to Laynesport and there establish my headquarters. I arrived there on the 2d of December, 1864, having marched 1,434 miles.

The march through the Indian country was necessarily a severe one, especially upon the stock, many of which died or became worn out and were consequently abandoned. The men in some instances hungered for food, but never approached starvation, nor did they suffer to anything like the extent that other of our soldiers have cheerfully endured without complaint for a much longer time during this war. At all events, I arrived in the country where forage and subsistence could be obtained in abundance, bringing with me in safety all the sick and wounded and all my command with which I entered the Indian country, without a single exception, except those who voluntarily straggled off and deserted their colors.

To enumerate specially the names of the officers who distinguished themselves for their skill and courage would swell this report beyond all reasonable limits; therefore, as to all but general officers and those who acted in that capacity, I would simply refer to the accompanying reports, heartily concurring in the meed of praise awarded to such officers as are therein enumerated by their immediate commanding officers. Maj. Gen. J. F. Fagan, commanding the division of Arkansas troops, bore himself throughout the whole expedition with unabated gallantry and ardor, and commanded his division with great ability. Maj. Gen. J. S. Marmaduke, commanding division, proved himself worthy of his past reputation as a valiant and skillful officer, and rendered with his division great service. His capture was a great loss to the army. Brig. Gen. J. O. Shelby, commanding division, added new luster to his past fame as a brilliant and heroic officer, and without disparagement to the officers I must be permitted to say that I consider him the best cavalry officer I ever saw. The services rendered by him and his division in this expedition are beyond all praise. Brigadier-General

Cabell bore himself as a bold, undaunted, skillful officer. Impetuous, yet wary, he commanded his brigade in such a manner as to win praise from all. I regret that for the want of reports from their several commanding officers I am not able to do justice to this as well as other brigades of Arkansas troops. Brigadier-General Cabell's capture was a great misfortune, and his place will be difficult to fill. Brigadier-General Clark, true to his past fame, bore himself with undaunted courage and bravery, as well as skill and prudence. His brigade was most skillfully handled. Colonels Slemons, Dobbin, and McCray (the former of whom was captured) acted throughout as brave, daring, yet prudent, officers, and are each entitled to great praise. Colonel Freeman proved himself to be a brave and energetic officer, but as his men were mostly unarmed they were not able to render the same brilliant services as other brigades that were armed. Colonel Tyler, who was placed in command of a brigade of new recruits, for the most part unarmed, deserves great praise for the success with which he kept them together and brought them within our lines, and deserves especial mention for the cool gallantry he displayed in charging the enemy with them at an important juncture, thereby greatly aiding in saving the train of the army from destruction.

My thanks are due to my staff officers for their untiring energy and unremitting attention to their duties during the entire campaign. Their zeal and devotion cannot be too highly commended by me.

In conclusion, permit me to add that in my opinion the results flowing from my operations in Missouri are of the most gratifying character. I marched 1,434 miles; fought forty-three battles and skirmishes; captured and paroled over 3,000 Federal officers and men; captured 18 pieces of artillery, 3,000 stand of small-arms, 16 stand of colors that were brought out by me (besides many others that were captured and afterward destroyed by our troops who took them), at least 3,000 overcoats, large quantities of blankets, shoes, and ready-made clothing for soldiers, a great many wagons and teams, large numbers of horses, great quantities of subsistence and ordnance stores. I destroyed miles upon miles of railroad, burning the depots and bridges; and taking this into calculation, I do not think I go beyond the truth when I state that I destroyed in the late expedition to Missouri property to the amount of $10,000,000 in value. On the other hand, I lost 10 pieces of artillery, 2 stand of colors, 1,000 small-arms, while I do not think I lost 1,000 prisoners, including the wounded left in their hands and others than recruits on their way to join me, some of whom may have been captured by the enemy.

I brought with me at least 5,000 new recruits, and they are still arriving in large numbers daily within our lines, who bring the cheering intelligence that there are more on their way to the army. After I passed the German settlements in Missouri my march was an ovation. The people thronged around us and welcomed us with open hearts and hands. Recruits flocked to our flag in such numbers as to threaten to become a burden instead of a benefit, as they were mostly unarmed. In some counties the question was not who should go to the army, but who should stay at home. I am satisfied that could I have remained in Missouri this winter the army would have been increased 50,000 men.

My thanks are due to Lieutenant-Colonel Bull, my provost-marshal, for the able, energetic, and efficient discharge of his duties.

STERLING PRICE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Shreveport, La.

No. 89.

Organization of Price's Army.

FAGAN'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JAMES F. FAGAN.

Cabell's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM L. CABELL.
Lieut. Col. A. V. REIFF.

Monroe's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. James C. Monroe.
Gordon's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. Anderson Gordon.
Morgan's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. Thomas J. Morgan.
Hill's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. John F. Hill.
Gunter's (Arkansas) Cavalry Battalion, Lieut. Col. Thomas M. Gunter.
Harrell's (Arkansas) Cavalry Battalion, Lieut. Col. John M. Harrell.
Witherspoon's (Arkansas) Cavalry Battalion, Maj. J. L. Witherspoon.
Hughey's (Arkansas) Battery, Capt. W. M. Hughey.

Slemons' Brigade.

Col. W. F. SLEMONS.
Col. WILLIAM A. CRAWFORD.

2d Arkansas Cavalry, Col. W. F. Slemons.
Crawford's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. William A. Crawford.
Carlton's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. Charles H. Carlton.
Wright's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. John C. Wright.

Dobbin's Brigade.

Col. ARCHIBALD S. DOBBIN.

Dobbin's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. Archibald S. Dobbin.
McGhee's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. James McGhee.
Witt's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. A. R. Witt.
Blocher's (Arkansas) Battery (one section, Lieut. J. V. Zimmerman.

McCray's Brigade.

Col. THOMAS H. MCCRAY.

45th Arkansas (mounted), Col. Milton D. Baber.
47th Arkansas (mounted), Col. Lee Crandall.
15th Missouri Cavalry, Col. Timothy Reves.

Unattached.

Lyles' (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. Oliver P. Lyles.
Rogan's (Arkansas) Cavalry, Col. James W. Rogan.
Anderson's (Arkansas) Cavalry Battalion, Capt. William L. Anderson.

MARMADUKE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JOHN S. MARMADUKE.
Brig. Gen. JOHN B. CLARK, Jr.

Escort.

Company D, Fifth Missouri Cavalry, Capt. D. R. Stallard.

Marmaduke's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. CLARK, Jr.
Col. COLTON GREENE.

3d Missouri Cavalry, Col. Colton Greene.
4th Missouri Cavalry, Col. John Q. Burbridge.
7th Missouri Cavalry, } Col. Solomon G. Kitchen.
Davies' (Missouri) Battalion Cavalry, } Lieut. Col. J. F. Davies.
8th Missouri Cavalry, Col. William L. Jeffers.
10th Missouri Cavalry, Col. Robert R. Lawther.
14th Missouri Cavalry (battalion), Lieut. Col. Robert C. Wood.
Hynson's (Texas) Battery, Capt. H. C. Hynson.
Harris' (Missouri) Battery, Capt. S. S. Harris.
Engineer company, Capt. James T. Hogane.

Freeman's Brigade.

Col. THOMAS R. FREEMAN.

Freeman's (Missouri) Cavalry, Col. Thomas R. Freeman.
Fristoe's (Missouri) Cavalry, Col. Edward T. Fristoe.
Ford's (Arkansas) Cavalry Battalion, Lieut. Col. Barney Ford.

SHELBY'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH O. SHELBY.

Shelby's Brigade.

Col. DAVID SHANKS.
Col. MOSES W. SMITH.
Brig. Gen. M. JEFF. THOMPSON.

5th Missouri Cavalry, Col. B. Frank Gordon.
11th Missouri Cavalry, Col. Moses W. Smith.
12th Missouri Cavalry, Col. David Shanks
Elliott's (Missouri) Cavalry, Col. Benj. Elliott.
Slayback's (Missouri) Cavalry Battalion, Lieut. Col. Alonzo W. Slayback.
Collins' (Missouri) Battery, Capt. Richard A. Collins.

Jackman's Brigade.

Col. SIDNEY D. JACKMAN.

Jackman's (Missouri) Cavalry, Lieut. Col. C. H. Nichols.
Hunter's (Missouri) Cavalry, Col. De Witt C. Hunter.
Williams' (Missouri) Cavalry Battalion, Lieut. Col. D. A. Williams.
Schnable's (Missouri) Cavalry Battalion, Lieut. Col. John A. Schnable.
Collins' (Missouri) Battery (one section), Lieut. Jacob D. Connor.

Unattached.

46th Arkansas (mounted), Col. W. O. Coleman.

TYLER'S BRIGADE.

Col. CHARLES H. TYLER.

Perkins' (Missouri) Cavalry, Col. Caleb Perkins.
Coffee's (Missouri) Cavalry,* Col. John T. Coffee.
Searcy's (Missouri) Cavalry, Col. James J. Searcy.

No. 90.

Itinerary of Price's Army.†

August 28.—General Price and staff left Camden and marched sixteen miles.

August 29.—Marched sixteen miles to Princeton. Fagan and Marmaduke reported. General P[rice] assumed command of cavalry and announced staff.

August 30.—Marched nine miles to Tulip. Raining all day. Wood's battalion reported to Marmaduke. Orders left at Princeton for Colonel Harrison.

August 31 (*Camp No. 1*).—Near Claridy's, on Benton road. Sent back two iron guns of Hughey's battery, not having suitable horses. Heard of Shelby cutting railroad twice and capturing 2,500 men and eight companies of the Fifty-fourth Illinois; twenty-five miles.

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* Transferred from Jackman's brigade.

† Kept by Lieut. Col. Lauchlan A. Maclean, Assistant Adjutant-General.

September 1 (*Camp No. 5*).—On Middle Fork of Saline River; Fagan on right flank toward Benton; eighteen miles.

September 2 (*Camp No. 6*).—Road rough. Passed Goose Pond Mountain; nineteen miles.

September 3 (*Camp No. 7*).—Road rocky and hilly; fifteen miles.

September 4 (*Camp No. 8*).—Marched fifteen miles to Dr. Hill's.

September 5 (*Camp No. 9*).—Cabell's brigade going over the mountain. Heard that Brooks and Stirman had passed from Danville to Dardanelle on the 3d. Weather warm and sultry. Joined by Fagan from the rear; eighteen miles.

September 6 (*Camp No. 10*).—At Dardanelle. Scouting parties of Federals on north side of river this morning. Sent letter No. 11 to Col. S. S. Anderson. Marmaduke's brigade and most of the train crossed the Arkansas River; fourteen miles.

September 7 (*Camp No. 11*).—At Dover, having forded the Arkansas. A Federal scout at Norristown this morning captured 6 horses from our pickets; fourteen miles.

September 8 (*Camp No. 12*).—On Clinton road; Fagan moving on Springfield road; thirteen miles.

September 9 (*Camp No. 13*).—Road rough and rocky; forage scarce; eighteen miles.

September 10 (*Camp No. 14*).—On Little Red River, eight miles southeast from Clinton. Companies of Federal jayhawkers disbanded on approach of army; a few taken prisoners. Burbridge's regiment went by Clinton. Letter sent to General Shelby by Captain Norman; twenty miles.

September 11 (*Camp No. 15*).—Road through Big Bottom of Little Red River. Whole country around infested with deserters from Confederate army, 2 of whom were killed; 1 of ours wounded. Fagan within eight miles, ahead; fourteen miles.

September 12 (*Camp No. 16*).—After marching twelve miles on direct road to Batesville, diverged to the left over a road so mountainous as to be almost impracticable; struck the river at a point eighteen miles above Batesville; considerable damage to train; total distance traveled, thirty miles.

September 13 (*Camp No. 17*).—At Batesville. Forded the river one mile above camp of yesterday; crossing good; marched along left bank of the river; town completely deserted and destroyed. General Marmaduke and command, with ordnance train, marched by Powhatan direct, marching up on the left; traveled eighteen miles.

September 14 (*Camp No. 18*).—On Strawberry Creek. Returns and reports received from General Shelby; thirty-two miles.

September 15 (*Camp No. 19*).—At Powhatan, another deserted village. General Shelby with headquarters of his command at this point. Traveled fourteen miles.

September 16 (*Camp No. 20*).—At Pocahontas, another deserted village and ruined community. Jackman, McCray, and others reported. Army reorganized, as per Orders, No. 8, on the 18th. Traveled eighteen miles.

September 19 (*Camp No. 21*).—At Indian Ford, on Current River. To-day the army marched in three columns—Marmaduke on the right, Shelby on left, with Fagan and the headquarters in the center. A scout of Federals at 10 a. m. to-day burnt up Doniphan and retired; two scouting parties sent in pursuit. Marched twenty-two miles and entered Missouri.

September 20 (*Camp No. 22*).—Marched to Ponder's Mill, on Little Black; passed several houses burnt; women and children around the smoking ashes; the burning done by a portion of the Twelfth Missouri (Federal),* commanded by Captain [Lieutenant] Pape, the same that burnt Doniphan yesterday. This morning our men attacked them at this point; killed a lieutenant and 3 men, wounded 4, and took 6 prisoners. Our loss 2 killed and 5 wounded. We captured several horses and small-arms; distance, twenty miles.

September 21 (*Camp No. 23*).—Marched to Cane Creek; forage abundant; heard from Marmaduke; forty-two miles on march last night; found a Federal who had crawled from the fight of yesterday to a house on roadside; distance, twelve miles.

September 22 (*Camp No. 24*).—Marched to Greenville, county seat of Wayne County; deserted; only two families in the place. Two companies of Federals passed through toward Ironton to-day. Shelby took Patterson, killing 14 and wounding several; took telegraph apparatus also; distance, twenty-two miles.

September 23 (*Camp No. 25*).—Marched to Cedar Creek; roads rough; distance, eighteen miles.

September 24 (*Camp No. 26*).—Reached Fredericktown; Shelby ahead of us, Marmaduke behind; more killed by 14 than at first reported by Shelby. Citizens generally Southern in sentiment; many coming to greet us; recruiting; distance, twenty miles.

September 25.—Still at Camp No. 26 waiting for Marmaduke to come up. He encamped eight miles off.

September 26 (*Camp No. 27*).—On Saint Francis. Shelby went by Farmington with a view of cutting the railroad. Fagan drove in the Federal pickets at Arcadia and took position before the town for the night; distance, twelve miles.

September 27 (*Camp No. 28*).—At Arcadia. This morning Fagan drove the Federals from Arcadia, where they abandoned a very strong position. He also drove them through Ironton. They fell back on Fort Davidson, in Pilot Knob. Fagan formed on the south and east. Marmaduke took possession of Shepherd's Mountain. Heavy skirmishing all day and continued artillery firing by the enemy. About 2 p. m. charge made on the fort, but the men were repulsed, but reformed by brigade commanders, but too late to renew the charge that night. Men placed in position and ammunition replenished; distance, eight miles.

September 28 (*Camp No. 29*).—Enemy evacuated Pilot Knob last night; found many stores of Government goods. (For number of guns, &c., taken, see reports.) Twelve miles.

September 29 (*Camp No. 30*).—Passed through Caledonia and Potosi. At the latter place General Shelby fought and captured —— Federals. The enemy, who left Pilot Knob under General Ewing, hearing of Shelby being in front, moved off to the west. Marmaduke and Shelby started in pursuit last night. General M. Jeff. Thompson arrived in camp. Rumors of Steele leaving Little Rock doubted; distance, twenty-two miles.

September 30 (*Camp No. 31*).—At Richwoods. Lieutenant Christian arrived with 150,000 caps and dispatches from General Magruder. No news of enemy. Flag captured at this place. General Fagan sent 300 men to De Soto. General Cabell sent, with his brigade, to cut the Pacific and Southwest Railroad east of Franklin; ten miles.

* It was the Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

October 1 (*Camp No. 32*).—Near Saint Clair. Met Marmaduke and Shelby; returned from unsuccessful pursuit of Ewing; many prisoners brought in, found straggling. Report from De Soto: militia scattered and depot burned. M[armaduke] and S[helby] destroyed the Southwestern Railroad for several miles. M[armaduke and S[helby] went on to Union to-night; distance traveled, nineteen miles.

October 2 (*Camp No. 33*).—Joined M[armaduke] and S[helby] early in the morning; found Cabell; returned, burned a bridge east of Franklin, and in the dawn burned the depot and destroyed the railroad. Lieutenant-Colonel Wood also returned from burning the bridge on the southwest branch over the Moselle. General Clark went to Washington, on Missouri River; Federals retreated across the river. Marmaduke ordered to Hermann with his division. F[agan] and S[helby] encamped on road to Mount Sterling, eight miles from Union, making in all fifteen miles.

October 3 (*Camp No. 34*).—Distance, fourteen miles.

October 4 (*Camp No. 35*).—Marched to Mount Sterling. One division crossed the Gasconade; horrible road bottom, and bottomless mud on west side; raining all day. Report from Marmaduke of his taking Miller's Bend and Hermann; distance, seventeen miles.

October 5 (*Camp No. 36*).—Marched to a point beyond Linn. General Marmaduke returned, having destroyed Osage (Gasconade) bridge, having taken Hermann and Miller's Landing the day before. Shelby sent a force under Colonel Shanks to destroy the Moreau bridge; distance, fourteen miles.

October 6 (*Camp No. 37*).—Marched to the Moreau. Crossing forced after some resistance by the enemy. Shelby in front. Colonel Shanks mortally wounded.

October 7 (*Camp No. 38*).—Near Jefferson City. Fagan in front and the only division engaged. Enemy in strong position, but driven from one position to another, until about 3 p. m. they retired to their fortifications in and around the city, when we formed in line to west and south of Jefferson. Cut the Pacific Railroad. Loss very slight; ten [miles].

October 8 (*Camp No. 39*).—At Russellville. Finding the enemy to be strongly fortified and in heavy force (12,000) in town, supported by 3,000 on north bank of river, drew off in the morning, Fagan protecting the rear and skirmishing all day; distance, fourteen [miles.]

October 9 (*Camp No. 40*).—On the Moniteau. Marmaduke in the rear. Several skirmishes with the enemy's cavalry, who followed as far as California. Shelby with Thompson's brigade went on to Boonville. Railroad destroyed from Lookout west beyond California; distance, twenty-six miles.

October 10 (*Camp No. 41*).—At Boonville. All the people turned out to greet us. Crossed a portion of command to north side, but recalled them. (See Shelby's report of capture of the place.) About 300 surrendered; distance, sixteen miles.

October 11.—Enemy approached on Tipton road; was met and repulsed by Fagan's command.

October 12.—Engaged slightly with enemy; recruiting; distributing goods. Left Boonville at 10 p. m. and marched to Chouteau Springs (Camp No. 42); eleven miles.

October 13 (*Camp No. 43*).—At Marshall's. Clark went across by Arrow Rock to attack Glasgow; fourteen miles.

October 14 (*Camp No. 44*).—At Jonesborough. Fagan came up, having been left at the La Mine. Shelby left with a section to attack Glasgow from this side. Thompson went to Sedalia; eight miles.

October 15 (*Camp No. 45*).—At Keiser's on Salt Fork; passed through Marshall; rumors of the enemy on our left and rear; seventeen miles.

October 16.—Remained in camp; news of surrender of Glasgow. (See Clark and Shelby's reports.) Thompson reports the enemy in force on road from Georgetown to Lexington.

October 17.—News of the capture of Sedalia by Thompson; recruits coming in; Federals enter Lexington on 16th.

October 18 (*Camp No. 46*).—At Waverly; twenty-two miles.

October 19 (*Camp No. 47*).—At General Shields' three miles south of Lexington. Left Waverly at daybreak. Knowing that Generals Blunt, Lane, and Jennison, with between 3,000 and 4,000 Federals, were at Lexington (Colorado, Kansas, and Missouri troops), fearing they might make a junction with McNeil and A. J. Smith, who were on Salt Fork and at Sedalia, made a flank movement to the left after crossing Tabo, so as to intercept their line of march. Met the enemy about four miles from Lexington on Salt Pond road; Shelby in front. Fought him back to the old Independence road, when night closed the fight. Federals evacuated by the river road; loss very slight; went home that night; distance, twenty-six miles.

October 20 (*Camp No. 48*).—To Fire Creek Prairie. Scouts report enemy falling back to the Blue; recruits from Chariton; twenty-two miles.

October 21 (*Camp No. 49*).—At Independence. At [Little] Blue met the enemy who had burned the bridge; Marmaduke in front; fought and drove them back through Independence. Shelby sustained M[armaduke] on his left; loss between 40 and 50; twenty-six miles.

October 22 (*Camp No. 50*).—Left Independence, Shelby in front; drove the enemy toward Kansas City, then struck a column on the left in open ground; charged and took a 24-pounder howitzer. In coming out of town in column enemy struck Cabell on the flank and took 2 guns and cut off some 300 or 400 men. Marmaduke, who was behind in town, fearing he might be taken prisoner, led Cabell's men and cut his way to the command.

October 23 (*Camp No. 51*).—Enemy in position on prairie; attacked by Shelby, assisted by Fagan with two brigades; drove the enemy five or six miles into Westport. The column in rear under McNeil pushed Marmaduke and Clark until Shelby and Fagan had to withdraw. Enemy threatened left flank of train; driven off by drawing up the unarmed men in line. Encamped on Middle Fork of Grand River; twenty-four miles.

October 24 (*Camp No. 52*).—At Potosi. Skirmishing with the enemy, who are following in rear; thirty-three miles.

October 25 (*Camp No. 53*).—On Marmiton. When near the Little Osage, Shelby in front and Marmaduke in rear, a dispatch received from Marmaduke stating that the enemy were in sight about 3,000 strong, with the line still extending; a brigade was ordered back from the front. Fagan stated on the note that he would sustain M[armaduke], but before we could go back a mile we met the command coming on in the most demoralized condition. The details can only be given from the reports of those present. Marmaduke, Cabell, and Slemons taken prisoners; 5 pieces of artillery captured, and the morale of the army ruined. Everything hurried on, a mass of confusion, from which it took every exertion to redeem it, but after crossing the Osage the enemy again appeared in sight, but General Shelby was in the rear, and after an action of two hours they were held in check until after dark, when the troops were withdrawn; twenty-eight miles.

October 26 (*Camp No. 54*).—At Carthage. No enemy; left everything behind; distance, fifty-six miles.

October 27 (*Camp No. 55*).—Encamped on Shoal Creek; enemy still far behind; morale of the troops improving, but many desertions among Arkansas troops; twenty-two miles.

October 28 (*Camp No. 56*).—Marched through Granby and Newtonia; a small detachment at the latter place left night before; one cavalry company remained; charged and routed; the captain (Christian, a noted bushwhacker) killed; encamped about four miles below Newtonia, when Blunt, with about 3,000 men, came upon us. He was met and signally repulsed by Shelby, sustained by Fagan with cavalry, and driven for over three miles. Our train was moved forward six miles; seventeen miles.

October 29 (*Camp No. 57*).—On Sugar Creek, five miles south of Pineville, through which we passed. Nothing known of any advance on the part of the enemy; twenty-six miles.

October 30 (*Camp No. 58*).—At Maysville, on line; headquarters in Indian lands; seventeen miles.

October 31 (*Camp No. 59*).—Marched to Illinois River, near line of Arkansas; twenty-six miles.

November 1 (*Camp No. 60*).—Marched to Boonsborough; raining all day; roads bad and hilly; stock worn out; much of it abandoned. Reports from Colonel Brooks, who was investing Fayetteville; asks aid; seventeen miles.

November 2.—In camp all day. General Fagan with re-enforcements went to Fayetteville. Colonel Freeman, with his command, started for Northern Arkansas. Colonel McCray ordered to go on the 3d and Colonel Dobbin on the 4th, to report south of Arkansas River on December 15, 20, and 25; raining hard.

November 3.—In camp; rain and snow. Letter from Rosecrans.

November 4 (*Camp No. 61*).—Marched to Indian Territory; roads good; fourteen miles.

November 5 (*Camp No. 62*).—Marched along Sallisaw River eighteen miles.

November 6 (*Camp No. 63*).—Marched to Arkansas River; twenty miles.

November 7 (*Camp No. 64*).—Crossed Arkansas River at Pheasant Ford; good crossing; four miles.

November 8 (*Camp No. 65*).—Raining; ten miles.

November 9 (*Camp No. 66*).—Raining; nine miles.

November 10 (*Camp No. 67*).—Order for Cabell's and Slemons' brigades approved. Slemons' command, commanded by Colonel Crawford, furloughed to December 10, to rendezvous at Miller's Bluff. Cabell's brigade, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Reiff, to rendezvous on December 10 at Spring Hill, Ark.; twelve miles.

November 11 (*Camp No. 68*).—Shelby left behind on Canadian to recruit. Tyler and Wood gone ahead. Wrote to General Maxey; fourteen miles.

November 12 (*Camp No. 69*).—Marched for good grazing at Gaines' Creek; two miles.

November 13 (*Camp No. 70*).—Passed through Perryville. Three wagons of supplies received; sixteen miles.

November 14.—Laid over in camp one day.

November 15 (*Camp No. 71*).—General Fagan ordered to establish his headquarters at Washington, Ark.; seventeen miles.

November 16 (*Camp No. 72*).—Seven miles.

November 17 (*Camp No. 73*).—At a point two miles south of Stand Watie's headquarters; fourteen miles.

November 18 (*Camp No. 74*).—Raining. Colonel Tyler started to Clarksville; ten miles.

November 19 (*Camp No. 75*).—Nine miles.

November 20 (*Camp No. 76*).—Nine miles.

November 21 (*Camp No. 77*).—Thirteen miles.

November 22 (*Camp No. 78*).—Crossed Red River. Clark went on to Clarksville; Shelby caught up; sixteen miles.

November 23 (*Camp No. 79*).—Marched to Bonham; twelve miles.

November 24 (*Camp No. 80*).—Fourteen miles.

November 25 (*Camp No. 81*).—Ten miles.

November 26 (*Camp No. 82*).—Reached Paris.

November 27 (*Camp No. 83*).—Sixteen miles.

November 28 (*Camp No. 84*).—At Clarksville; fourteen miles.

November 29.—Remained at Clarksville. Thompson's command came up. Leave granted to Shelby and other officers.

November 30.—Still at Clarksville. Order from Magruder received to march to Laynesport.

December 1 (*Camp No. 85*).—Clark's command on the march. Thompson to move to-morrow; eighteen miles.

December 2 (*Camp No. 86*).—At Laynesport. Crossed river; nineteen miles.

December 3.—Clark arrived and sent courier to Washington.

Whole distance marched, 1,434 miles.

No. 91.

Report of Lieut. Col. John P. Bull, C. S. Army, Provost-Marshal.

WASHINGTON, *December 7, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor of submitting the following report of duties performed, prisoners paroled, &c., while acting in the capacity of provost-marshal-general of the Army of Missouri:

About the 27th of September I received an order from Major-General Price to report to him as provost-marshal-general, and to assume my duties as soon as practicable. I reported the next morning and immediately organized to each brigade fifty picked men, one captain, and three lieutenants. To each division I appointed a field officer, with rank of major, as provost-marshal-general of that division. Each day the guard was deployed along the line of march to prevent straggling, depredating, &c. This proved difficult, as at times the column was stretched out five or six miles. There was also each day a detachment ordered with the train for the purpose of assisting the chief quartermaster, &c. The list* of prisoners paroled accompanying this report is imperfect, as the names of 300 or 400 are with Lieutenant Bill, of Colonel McCray's brigade, who assisted me in my duties. I will forward the report of them as soon as possible. (For the report of prisoners captured at Glasgow and paroled by Brigadier-General Clark, I will refer you to his report, as also prisoners paroled at Sedalia by Brig. Gen. M. Jeff. Thompson. For names and numbers of prisoners paroled by General Shelby at Newtonia I refer you to his report.)

JOHN P. BULL,
Lieut. Col. and Prov. Mar. Gen., Army of Missouri.

Lieutenant-Colonel MACLEAN, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army of Missouri.*

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* Not found.

No. 92.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army, commanding division.

HEADQUARTERS SHELBY'S DIVISION,
December —, 1864.

COLONEL: The following report contains a full account of my operations north of White River, which I now have the honor of laying before you:*

On August 4 I picked fifty men and sent them under Lieutenant Burch, of Smith's regiment, to Devall's Bluff. They went boldly on their mission, captured and killed about 50 Federals on the west side of the river, hailed the lookouts at the Bluff, passed themselves off for friends and tried to decoy a boat over, but could not succeed, and finally they fired half a dozen rounds into the gun-boats, quarters, and steamers at the Bluff, and got away without losing a man, the iron-clads at the wharf and the heavy batteries on the hill sweeping the western shore with a tornado of shot and shell.

The next day Captain Williams, with a scouting party, met a larger force of the enemy, attacked and routed them, killing and wounding 27, and bringing 10 prisoners to camp. Re-enforcing Colonel Dobbin with Colonel Gordon's regiment, I ordered him to make a foray upon the Federal plantations around Helena, and harry them with fire and sword. He started immediately, but met a large body of Federals at Big Creek bridge, with two pieces of artillery and one regiment of negroes. Dobbin attacked them at first sight and fought them hard for three hours. The enemy gained the cover of some old fortifications of logs and trees, and made a stubborn resistance. Dobbin and Gordon still pressed on, drove them from their shelter, and in confusion toward Helena, capturing and killing great numbers, besides taking 2 caissons, 3 wagons, many guns and pistols. Gordon, in the retreat of the enemy, came upon Major Carmichael with 300 cavalry, sent out to re-enforce the Federals, charged him in column of fours straight down the road, scattered his command in every direction, and narrowly missed the notorious Carmichael—a house-burner, robber, and murderer of the first water. This disastrous battle inflicted upon the enemy the loss of 2 field officers, 7 line officers, and 200 soldiers killed and wounded. The retreating foe was followed up to the corporation limits of Helena, falling and surrendering by the wayside from sheer exhaustion. The next day they pounced down upon the plantations and turned loose upon them 1,000 rough and hungry horsemen. Then began a scene almost unparalleled in the history of the war. Cotton-gins and cotton, hay, corn, and oats, reaping machines and threshing machines, negro cabins and soldiers' quarters, were burned, torn down, and destroyed. Yankee schoolmasters and schoolmarms were taken from their little flocks of gaping Africans and taught the secrets of rebel raiding; negro soldiers were shot amid the blazing rafters of their dwellings, and 300 horses and mules, much clothing and supplies, and 200 negroes brought safely off. Lieutenant-Colonel Erwin, sent to the plantations above Memphis, was also successful in destroying much Federal property, but being attacked and partly surprised, lost several good officers and men.

* For portions of report here omitted, see Vol. XXXIV, Part 1, p. 926, and p. 28, *ante*. The following extract relates to operations already covered by special reports of August 9, 13, and 30, for which see pp. 191, 229, and 286, respectively.

My operations in the rear of General Steele up to this time had so much annoyed him that he sent a very large force up by Searcy with the avowed purpose of driving me from the country. The odds were heavy against me in a pitched battle, for so many of my recruits were unarmed and ineffective, but I determined to try the issue at all hazards. Sending all the sick, wounded, and unarmed men one day's march to the rear, I concentrated the largest portion of my effective men on the east side of Black River and waited for the coming storm. Before doing this, however, I sent Gordon and Dobbin to operate on both flanks of the enemy and annoy them as much as possible, while Major McDaniel with 200 men played boldly in their front. For three days they marched and threatened, but made no direct attack. McDaniel gradually worked around to their rear and charged it three times, killing and wounding many. Gordon had a severe fight on their right flank and worsted them, while Dobbin, from Augusta, held and preserved a menacing attitude. Either from these causes, or something unknown to me, they hastily retreated one night, leaving a strong rear guard at Searcy, which was almost immediately driven out and our old lines re-established.

I now determined to make a direct attack upon the railroad, having received communications from General Price to the effect that he would probably cross it on August 24. So on the 20th I started with 2,000 armed men and Collins' battery and traveled rapidly in that direction. Big Cypress Creek was running out bank full, which caused me to march almost due south to Austin, forty miles from Little Rock, and then back north again. Leaving Colonel Dobbin at Austin to cover the crossing with his command, I reached the railroad, six miles from Devall's Bluff. Marching quietly along in column, with no flags flying, and everything well closed up, the appearance presented was that of a returning Federal expedition. The entire prairie was dotted with little knots and groups of the enemy, some cutting hay, some on guard, some drilling, and some lolling listlessly in the sun. Williams, with his advance, broke their noonday sleep with the ring of revolvers, and the surprised and frightened enemy ran away to cover. Sending Colonel Hunter and Major McDaniel down the road to watch Devall's Bluff, and forming Colonel McCray as a reserve, I opened fire on Redoubt No. 1, which, after a few well-directed shots, surrendered. No. 2 and No. 3 re-enforced No. 4 and made a vigorous stand. Dismounting Colonel Shanks' brigade and bringing up Collins' battery, I opened with artillery and moved up with the infantry at the charge. The garrisons did not wait, however, until the test came, but surrendered unconditionally. No. 5, seeing the result, re-enforced No. 6, which was held by Colonel Mitchell and the veteran Fifty-fourth Illinois Infantry. They held out well under the splendid and pitiless practice of Collins' artillery, and I again dismounted Shanks' brigade and moved forward to the attack. Time was pressing. A very large force of infantry and cavalry came hurrying down from Devall's Bluff, driving back Hunter and McDaniel slowly and painfully. Another force of similar size came from the direction of Little Rock, and these two columns, like dark clouds, united with a somber, sullen glare. Out from the doomed fort now the garrison rushed for hope and help and made a beautiful run for their friends. I had anticipated this, and held in reserve a sufficient force of cavalry, which now dashed away after the fugitives. In ten minutes they were overtaken, ridden over, and double-quicked to the rear, the bullets from the enemy plowing in among their ranks. While the fight lasted, and before it commenced, large details were

tearing up the railroad, burning forage, breaking reaping machines, and destroying all kinds of Federal property. The enemy came down upon me in large numbers, but calling up Jackman and getting in all my detachments, I moved off. They charged twice feebly, but were easily repulsed, and I marched back toward Austin, followed by them and fighting them during all the rest of the day. I traveled all night and reached Austin at daylight, having marched forty miles and fought six hours.

The result of the expedition was gratifying. Over 450 Federals were captured, 300 killed and wounded, 6 forts taken and destroyed, vast quantities of forage destroyed, ten miles of railroad torn up, the rails heated and bent and the ties consumed, the telegraph broken down, and hay machines, oxen, wagons, and supplies used up or driven off. Our loss in killed and wounded, 170.

The enemy attacked me the next morning furiously at Austin, but turning upon him at the crossing of Big Cypress, Gordon inflicted such a sudden and terrible punishment upon him that he retreated from my rear and never came in sight again. As General Price did not cross the railroad, as anticipated, and supposing he would come over the mountain route, I sent a large force to Searcy Valley to watch the roads there leading to his left flank if he came that route and frustrate all such designs, if contemplated.

At this time I had 8,000 new recruits in camps of instruction. McCray, Jackman, and Dobbin had good brigades with several unattached regiments and battalions, and I had given the men to understand fairly and squarely that they should go to the regular army when the time came, or whenever I was ordered to bring them. Jayhawking, stealing, plundering of private property, and lawless impressments had been checked and crushed by effective doses of powder and lead and the people enjoyed a greater degree of civil freedom than ever before.

General Adams, whom I found in command of the Northern Sub-District of Arkansas, was retained in his civil capacity, but had no control whatever with troops in the field.

Soon after the expedition to the railroad I sent Captain McCoy to the Saint Francis River, where a large Government boat was hard aground, with fifty men to destroy it. He was successful. Burned the boat and cargo, which consisted of a large quantity of coal for the Mississippi naval squadron. Not long after five steamers, crowded with troops, came up White River to Augusta, where they were ambushed by Colonel Dobbin, and great numbers killed, causing them to beat a hasty retreat.

All the prisoners taken were paroled and sent North, for I was too weak to spare sufficient detachments to guard them to our lines south of the Arkansas River through an enemy's country, for the entire number captured during the expedition was largely over 1,100. Only a partial list of these prisoners can be furnished, as the record of their names was destroyed on the late expedition to Missouri, having been placed in a wagon devoted to the flames. Those saved, being in another wagon, will be furnished immediately, which will be between 700 or 800. There was not a day that some of my scouting parties did not meet, encounter, and whip in every affair a larger force of the Federals, and such was the terror of our arms that they never came against us only with heavy odds. Everything in readiness to move I reported to General Price on his arrival and started for Missouri on September 19.

My thanks are earnestly due to all my officers and men for their courage and devotion and their eagerness at all times to meet the enemy.

Hoping this report will prove satisfactory, I am, colonel, very respectfully,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Expedition.

Maj. L. A. MACLEAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Arkansas.

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HEADQUARTERS SHELBY'S DIVISION,
December —, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report, embracing a detailed account of my operations in Missouri during the recent expedition of General Price:

On the 12th of September I moved camp from Sulphur Rock, Ark., toward Pocahontas in anticipation of the arrival of the army, and on the 19th, after having received my instructions, started for Missouri, and encamped in Doniphan. Before arriving there, however, couriers from Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson, of Marmaduke's command, brought information that 100 Federals were in the town and pressing him back. I immediately started forward sufficient re-enforcements, but the enemy fled before reaching them, burning the helpless and ill-fated town. That night I dispatched 150 men under Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson to pursue the vandals. They came upon them early the next morning [20th], attacked, scattered, and killed many of them. I pushed on then rapidly for Patterson, destroying on the way the bloody rendezvous of the notorious Leeper, and on the morning of the 22d I surrounded and charged in upon the town. Its garrison, hearing of my advance, retreated hastily, but not before many were captured and killed, and some supplies taken. All the Government portion of Patterson was destroyed, together with its strong and ugly fort.

By a long and forced march the next day Fredericktown was reached to prevent, if possible, the removal of the goods there; but the news had outstripped our fastest horses, and nothing was left but the shadow. A scouting party from my command, under Captains Johnson and Shaw, dashed into Farmington, surrounded a strong court-house held by thirty Federals, and captured them, with great quantities of goods.

Remaining three days at Fredericktown, I started early on the morning of the 26th for the Iron Mountain Railroad, the heavy clouds overhead dark and portentous with impending destruction, and encamped five miles from the doomed track, the whistle of the familiar locomotives sounding merrily and shrill on the air as if no enemy were watching and waiting for the coming daylight.

Early in the dim morning Col. Benjamin Elliott was sent to Irondale to destroy the bridge there, and Col. B. Frank Gordon to the three bridges over Big River, below, while with the rest of the command I struck the road equidistant between the two points. As my advance came in sight a locomotive thundered by with one car attached loaded with soldiers fleeing from the wrath to come, which was immediately fired upon. Some slight obstructions had been placed upon the track by the advanced scouts, which delayed the train a few moments, but before any force could possibly have been brought up the locomotive went fleeing on, urged by hands that feared the avengers of blood.

Gordon and Elliott did their work well, as they ever do, and Elliott, after destroying the splendid bridge at Irondale and helping himself to what supplies he needed, commenced upon the track. Gordon burnt the first of his three bridges without opposition, but at Mineral Point a brigade of Smith's infantry seemed inclined to oppose him. Going straight at them they made but little fight, and retreated rapidly toward Saint Louis. The fine bridge there was then burned and one still farther down, and now the work of destruction began in earnest. The whole command was deployed in a new line of battle, called the railroad line; that is, each man took position at the end of a tie, the rails were broken at intervals of a thousand yards, and then when the word was given and the united strength of a thousand hands was taxed great masses and flakes of wood and iron were torn from the yielding bed, lifted up on end, and hurled groaning, grinding, and crashing fifty rods sheer away from the parent grade. Thus for miles and miles a terrible plowshare ripped up the labor of years, and the red flames licked up the debris, with tanks, depots, trestle-work, cord-wood and telegraph wire and poles. After spending five hours in this labor of destruction I recalled all my detachments and spurred away for Potosi. One hundred and fifty Federals were in fortifications there. My advance charged them into the court-house, gained the buildings commanding it, held them there until the artillery came up, when five rounds brought the white flag, and all their arms, with much ammunition and supplies, fell into our hands. The same work of devastation was visited upon the Potosi branch, and the fine depot with seven cars were destroyed.

A scouting party sent out under Lieutenant Plattenberg, numbering thirty men, ran into 100 Federals, killed 10, wounded 17, captured 11, 2 caissons, 30 fine artillery horses with harness complete, 7 wagons, and 23 negroes—a most daring and brilliant affair.

After remaining at Potosi until the next morning, and not receiving orders from General Price, nor, in fact, knowing the result of operations at Pilot Knob, I determined to march there with my entire command. At Caledonia I received orders to be in readiness in an hour to march with General Marmaduke in pursuit of General Ewing. All that night the chase went on, and early the next day Ewing's rear was gained and General Marmaduke, who was in advance, fought him until an hour before sunset, when my command, taking the lead, continued the fight until dark, making a heavy charge all along the line just as darkness shut out all vestiges of daylight. Night alone saved Ewing from capture, and we bivouacked upon the field of Leasburg supperless and rationless. The enemy spent their time in throwing up heavy fortifications, and it was considered best next morning not to renew the attack. September 30 I made a detour round Leasburg and marched hard for the southwest branch, which was reached at Sullivan's Station. Here the depot was destroyed, the track torn up as usual, vast quantities of lumber and cord-wood burned, with 3 passenger and 5 box cars.

October 1, 2, 3, and 4 I moved with my division on through Saint Clair, Union, Mount Sterling, and Linn, capturing at the latter place 100 prisoners and as many arms. A scout sent out here under Captain Redd, my aide-de-camp, was very successful and brought in some prisoners, arms, horses, and valuable information. Through this and other sections of the country traversed by the army the wise and just policy of General Price was fruitful of the most happy results. The German element, largely preponderating, had been taught that Confederate

soldiers killed, burned, and destroyed with vengeance swift as it was merciless, sparing neither age nor sex, and exacting a dark retribution of blood from the citizens and non-combatants. His first acts were to parole and liberate the militia caught at home, place guards over private property, respect the ties of politics and religion, and very soon they went abroad like some vast epidemic, until old men and boys came into his camp in crowds to bless their protector and take the oath of neutrality. On the 5th I marched upon Westphalia in a cold and heavy rain, where it was reported a Federal regiment was encamped. None were found, however, and that night I ordered Colonel Shanks to take his brigade, with a section of artillery, and destroy the Osage bridge, a very large and important structure, which was done at the charge, and 40 prisoners surprised and captured in a block-house on this side of the river. The brigade rejoined me in time to participate in forcing the passage of the Osage, six miles below Castle Rock, early in the day of the 6th. Positive information told me that all the fords were guarded, and the advancing force would suffer not only the disadvantages of crossing a wide and deep stream under fire, but also from a perfect ignorance of the enemy's numbers. I therefore sent Colonel Gordon to make a vigorous demonstration at Castle Rock while I massed the remaining portion of the division and forced a passage six miles below. Gordon found the enemy stubborn and unyielding, and commenced a heavy fire upon him, his advance, under Capt. William M. Moorman, striking a Federal scout on this side of thirty men and pushing them so hard that they, like the swine possessed of the devil, ran over a steep place and thirteen of them drowned. The rest were captured and killed.

I reconnoitered the ford warily, showing no force whatever, and found about one regiment drawn up to dispute farther progress, while movements in the rear told that more were coming up. I dismounted Shanks' and Smith's regiments, deployed them along the bank, sheltered by heavy timber; held Elliott and Williams well in hand for a dash, and stationed my battery at splendid range. When all these arrangements were completed, a terrible fire of infantry and artillery swept the other bank, swept the opposing squadrons, swept the face of the bluff beyond, and drove everything for shelter to the woods. Now Elliott and Williams dashed away at the charge; the infantry waded after. The swift and beautiful water was torn into foam-flakes that hurried and danced away to the sea, while the ringing shout of a thousand voices told that the ford was won.

I immediately pushed forward Colonel Shanks with orders to press the retiring enemy hard and heavily. The Federals, re-enforced, came back upon him with great vigor, and the battle raged evenly there. Mounting Smith's and Shanks' old regiment, I sent them to his assistance. He ordered a charge along his entire line, and led it with his hat off and the light of battle on his face. That charge was glorious. The enemy, though outnumbering him, fled rapidly, and pressing on far ahead of his best and bravest, he fell in the arms of victory—a bullet through and through his dauntless breast.

I cannot refrain from laying aside for a moment the cold and formal language of a report and paying a just tribute to the absent and wounded hero. Brave, chivalrous, devoted friend of all who needed friend; a lion in battle; "fleet-foot on the *correi*, sage counsel *in cumber;*" the Murat of my command. When he left us a star went out, a giant was gone. Whether upon the march or the bivouac, the cold and

weary advance or the dark and pitiless retreat, where death is fleet as the wave of its sable banner, he was always the same heroic soldier, ready at all times and under all circumstances.

> The scythe of the reaper
> Takes the ears that are hoary;
> But the voice of the weeper
> Wails manhood in glory.

After Colonel Shanks fell, Colonel Smith assumed command, and the enemy were pushed until dark, when my tired and weary division bivouacked seven miles from Jefferson City. Colonel Gordon after severe fighting forced a passage at Castle Rock and pushed out on the Jefferson road. At Dixon's plantation, seven miles from the ford, he again encountered the enemy after dark, when after a severe engagement of ten minutes' duration the Federals fled in great confusion. Gordon opened communication with me and then bivouacked for the night also. After General Fagan had driven in the enemy's outposts on the next day, I marched round the city and invested it on the west and northwest and sent 100 picked men under Major McDaniel, of Elliott's regiment, to the Pacific Railroad. He returned the next morning, having cut telegraph communication and picked up several prisoners.

The next morning after the march had been commenced away from Jefferson, Lieutenant-Colonel Schnable, placed on picket near the fortifications on the south, was furiously attacked by a superior force. The gallant colonel repulsed the first charge, but they came back re-enforced, and Schnable whipped them again, but the third time he charged them first, drove them 500 yards, when he met another line which pressed him so heavily that he was forced to retire with 4 killed and 14 wounded.

Striking California early on the morning of the 8th [9th], I found Colonel Smith already ahead of me, whom I had sent the night before on a visit of destruction to the Pacific Railroad, which visit will be long remembered for riven track, bridges, and everything else that would break or burn. Not halting a moment in California, I left the rear guard in charge of Brig. Gen. M. Jeff. Thompson, who had been assigned by General Price to command my old brigade, and pushed on with my advance for Boonville, where rumor located from 100 to 800 Federals. About an hour before sunset I came upon their outlying pickets three miles from town, which Captains McCoy and Williams charged furiously, driving in their heavy reserves, and followed them pell-mell into Boonville and to within thirty feet of a heavy and strong fortification. Here the Federals were held at bay until the artillery could come up, for I am unwilling at all times to sacrifice life when nothing is to be gained by it; but in the meantime I threw Elliott's battalion toward the river below and Williams' above, thus rendering all attempts to cross the river by the ferry-boat abortive. While waiting for the battery a deputation of the oldest and most respected citizens came to me with information that inside of the fortification was one company of Southern men and boys, impressed into service by the iron hand of despotism. I was then very unwilling to open fire upon the fort, and departed so far from my usual habit in such cases that I sent them a flag for a conference. This interview ended with an unconditional surrender, and with a guaranty on my part of that protection accorded to prisoners of war. Yet, in spite of this and of the reflection it would cast upon me as a soldier and officer of honor, the guards were charged by some persons in nothing save the name of Confederates, and

Captain Shumaker taken from them and executed. That he deserved death no one denies; that he met it thus every good soldier must lament and deplore.

The bright hours of pleasure and enjoyment were rudely broken in upon on the 11th by a heavy force of Federals attacking General Fagan. My division was soon ready for the field, and I received orders if possible to fall upon the enemy's flank. Fearing trouble on the Georgetown road, I sent Colonel Jackman there with orders to attack the enemy wherever found, and fight him in front, flank or rear, as he deemed advisable. I then moved out on the Tipton and Boonville road seven miles, but learning that the enemy had retired I returned to camp, at the same time ordering Colonel Jackman to leave a force of observation where he was and change position from the Georgetown road to the Tipton and Boonville road, advance in the direction of the retiring Federals, and attack them upon first sight. Having no guide, and being in a broken and uneven country, Colonel Jackman did not overtake them until dark, when he attacked and drove him rapidly across the Tête Saline, resting there for the night, making beautiful dispositions to renew the fight on the morrow. About daylight the Federals opened upon Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols, commanding the covering regiment, and forced him slowly back after half an hour s hard fighting. When Colonel Jackman had drawn them to his position he suddenly turned upon them with great fury and drove them, after two hours of hard fighting, over the ground lost, over the Tête Saline, and two miles beyond, inflicting heavy loss. This brilliant fight stamped him a fine cavalry officer, brave and skillful in action, with everything requisite to make him a dashing commander. The enemy soon retreated, and Colonel Jackman, by order from General Fagan, returned with his command to camp.

Moving from Boonville on the 12th and marching rapidly west, encamped on Blackwater on the evening of the 13th, where orders were received for Colonel Jackman with 500 men to report to General Clark for services in North Missouri, and on the 14th these orders were carried out. On the same day I was notified to be in readiness as early as practicable with my entire division, remaining for a combined attack on Glasgow and Sedalia. General M. Jeff. Thompson with a portion of the division and two pieces of artillery moved on the latter, and I, with the remainder and the other section of Collins' battery, moved on the former. Traveling hard all night Glasgow was reached an hour before daylight, and just as the distant east gave token of the coming day I opened with infantry and artillery upon the sleeping Federals, the silent town, and the rough and rugged fort. The surprise at first was complete, but the enemy, taking breath and courage, opened a merciless fire of sharpshooters upon the battery and upon the infantry drawn up along the shore. Yet Captain Collins, who never seems at home save in the rage and roar of battle, by the splendid aim of his guns and the rapidity of their serving, drove the enemy from his hiding-places, and there was a lull in the tempest of lead. It was expected that General Clark's attack would be simultaneous with mine, and that the object of my movement should be to cover the real assault; but he did not arrive until two hours after I commenced the fight. My ammunition was considerably expended. Yet, when his guns were heard from the north I again returned to the work with renewed energy, sending at the same time to you for re-enforcements and ammunition, intending to cross the river myself if there should be any failure from the other side. With this view I called for volunteers to cross to the other side in a yawl

and get up steam in a large boat lying opposite, which was responded to by Captain McCoy and Captain Carrington, of my staff. They crossed in plain view of the enemy, found the boat in serviceable condition, and came back to report, the bullets plowing and hissing in the water all around them. This was a most gallant exploit, and one which is deserving of the highest praise. Before, however, additional help arrived the town surrendered to General Clark. Colonel Jackman, acting in conjunction with him, displayed his usual courage and made a most brilliant and successful charge, driving everything before him.

General Thompson with great rapidity and dash hurled himself upon Sedalia, opened his guns at point-blank range, sent forward Colonel Elliott at the charge, and captured town, fort, Federals, and all to the number of 200. Very soon great masses of the enemy came looming up to see what bold intruder had broken in upon their quiet sleep of years, but the wary Thompson, true to his well-won sobriquet, fell back fighting before them in splendid style after destroying everything owned by the United States Government.

Before the Sedalia attack I sent Lieut. James Wood, Elliott's battalion, to the large and magnificent bridge over the La Mine River, on the Pacific Railroad. True to the memory of the same feat a year ago, he charged upon it in the dim dawn of a dusky morning and woke the tardy sun by a mingled mass of flame and smoke, and crackling and splintered timbers, and crumbling arch and abutment. His work was complete. The destruction of 1863 was re-enacted in 1864, and the same old river swept on to the sea, telling great tales of how the gray jackets came over the border.

Still moving west on the 17th and 18th, and leading the advance on the 19th, I encountered a heavy force of Federals under General Blunt five miles from Lexington, on the Salt Pond road. Immediate battle was given. The enemy were stubborn at first and handled their artillery well, but Thompson gave them no breathing time, and with Gordon and Elliott in front pushed them hard past Lexington and well on the road toward Independence. This was the first real indication of the immediate presence of a concentrated force in our front, and I knew now there would be heavy work for us all in the future. On the morning of the 21st rapid and continuous firing in my front warned me that Marmaduke, who was in my advance, was hotly engaging the enemy. Closing up my command well and passing a command in front, I arrived in time to receive General Price's order to support General Marmaduke immediately. I dismounted my entire command, except Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols' regiment, of Jackman's brigade, and crossed Little Blue by wading. Finding General Marmaduke hard pressed and greatly outnumbered, I threw forward Thompson's brigade swiftly on the left, Jackman's supporting, and the fight opened fast and furious. The enemy held a strong position behind hastily constructed works of logs and earth, stone fences, and deep hollows and ravines. My division fought splendidly. From stand to stand the Federals were driven, and soon began to waver and retreat. After great difficulty and hard work my artillery got over the stream and opened a heavy fire from a beautiful position. Sending the cavalry regiment of Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols upon their left flank, which made a brilliant and desperate charge, and pressing forward immediately in front, the enemy was driven clearly from the field; and now taking the advance, I pushed him in a stubborn running fight beyond Independence, where a large

hospital was filled with his wounded and dying. That evening Captain Williams, of my advance, who had been sent north of the Missouri River to recruit, returned with 600 men after having captured Carrollton with a garrison of about 300 and arming his entire command.

Bivouacking at Independence to rest my tired division, for they had followed the chase all the long day on foot, I ordered Colonel Jackman on the morning of the 22d to move out on the Kansas City road and engage the enemy skirmishing with my pickets; then crossing the Big Blue and facing the enemy on the right, engaged them to cover the crossing and passing of the train. Sending General Thompson with his entire brigade, except Gordon's regiment, to force the Federals back to Westport, I held Gordon to watch the left, now being demonstrated upon, until Jackman came up. Thompson drove everything before him on the right within sight of the domes and spires of Westport, and then the Federals got stubborn and re-enforced on him, holding a heavy skirt of timber that fringed the lower edge of a large field. Gordon also soon became engaged with forces outnumbering him three to one, but fought them manfully until Jackman came up, when the Federals unlimbered a battery at close range and poured in a merciless fire. I determined to charge it and take it if possible. Gordon and Jackman dashed away at the word, rode down the cannoneers, broke the infantry supports, and captured and held one beautiful 24-pounder howitzer (brass), with caisson and ammunition, and several wagons and teams. Jackman followed the demoralized foe for several miles, inflicting severe injury upon them, and returned in time to meet a large force coming from the direction of Westport. Now commenced a severe and heavy fight. The train had all safely passed, and I sent orders to Thompson to hurry to my assistance. The enemy, furious at the loss of their gun, tried hard to take it back, but the ground was held against them, and darkness and the arrival of General Thompson put an end to a very hard day's fighting.

The 23d of October dawned upon us clear, cold, and full of promise. My division moved squarely against the enemy about 8 o'clock in the direction of Westport, and very soon became fiercely engaged, as usual. The enemy had regained all the strong positions taken from them the day before by General Thompson, and it became imperatively necessary to force that flank of the enemy back. Inch by inch and foot by foot they gave way before my steady onset. Regiment met regiment, and opposing batteries draped the scene in clouds of dense and sable smoke. While the engagement was at its height Collins burst one of his Parrotts, but fought on with his three guns as if nothing had happened. Again were the Federals driven within sight of Westport, and here I halted to reform my lines, naturally broken and irregular by the country passed over, intending to make a direct attack upon the town. About 12 o'clock I sent Jackman's brigade back to the road taken by the train, for it was reported that General Marmaduke had fallen back before the enemy—although he had never notified me of the fact, or I never saw his couriers, which I learned afterward were sent—and thus my whole right flank and rear were exposed. Jackman had scarcely reached the point indicated when he met an order from General Fagan to hasten to his help at a gallop, for the entire prairie in his front was dark with Federals. Jackman dismounted his men in the broad and open plain and formed them in one long, thin line before the huge wave that threatened to engulf them. Collins with one gun hurried forward to help Jackman, and opened furiously upon the advancing enemy.

On and on, their great line overlapping Jackman by one-half, they came to within eighty yards. Down went that line of gray, and a steady stream of bullets struck them fairly in the face, until they reeled, scattered, and fled; but the wing that extended beyond and around Jackman's left rode on to retrieve the disaster of their comrades, and came within thirty paces at full speed. Again a merciless fire swept their front; again Collins poured in double charges of grape and canister, and they, too, were routed and driven back, when General Fagan thanked Colonel Jackman on the "field of his fame, fresh and gory." It was a high and heroic action and one which shines out in our dark days of retreat like a "cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night." There on an open prairie, no help or succor near, no friendly reserves to cover and protect a retreat, Jackman dismounted with almost the forlorn determination of Cortez, who burnt his ships, resolved to conquer or die. Fresh lines of Federals forced Jackman to mount his horses, and he fell back after the train, fighting hard.

Now my entire rear was in possession of the enemy, and the news was brought when Thompson was fighting for dear life at Westport. Withdrawing him as soon as possible, and with much difficulty, for he was hard pressed, I fell back as rapidly as I could after the retiring army, the force I had been fighting at Westport coming up just behind, when, reaching the road, the prairie in my rear was covered almost by a long line of troops, which at first I supposed to be our own men. This illusion was soon dispelled, and the two great waves uniting, came down upon one little brigade and Colonel Slayback's regiment. The prospect was dark and desperate. Not a tree or bush was to be seen for weary miles and miles, and no helping army could be seen anywhere. I knew the only salvation was to charge the nearest line, break it if possible, and then retreat rapidly, fighting the other. The order was given. Thompson and Slayback fell upon them with great fury, mixed in mêlée, and unclasped from the deadly embrace weak and staggering. In attempting to reform my lines (which after breaking through and through the Federals were much scattered) an enfilading battery of six guns swept the whole line, and another in front opened with terrific effect. At the same time the column which followed me from Westport came down at the charge, and nothing was left but to run for it, which was now commenced. The Federals seeing the confusion pressed on furiously, yelling, shouting, and shooting, and my own men fighting, every one on his own hook, would turn and fire and then gallop away again. Up from the green sward of the waving grass two miles off a string of stone fences grew up and groped along the plain—a shelter and protection. The men reached it. Some are over; others are coming up, and Slayback and Gordon and Blackwell and Elliott are rallying the men, who make a stand here and turn like lions at bay. The fences are lines of fire, and the bullets sputter and rain thicker upon the charging enemy. They halt, face about, and withdraw out of range. My command was saved, and we moved off after the army, traveling all night.

Day and night the retreat was continued until the evening of the 25th, when my division, marching leisurely in front of the train, was ordered hastily to the rear to protect it, while flying rumors came up constantly that Marmaduke and Cabell were captured with all their artillery. Leaving Colonel Jackman with his brigade to watch well my left flank and guard the train, I hastened forward with Thompson's brigade and Slayback's regiment to the scene of action. I soon met

beyond the Osage River the advancing Federals, flushed with success and clamorous for more victims. I knew from the beginning that I could do nothing but resist their advance, delay them as much as possible, and depend on energy and night for the rest.

The first stand was made one mile north of the Osage River, where the enemy was worsted; again upon the river-bank, and again I got away in good condition. Then taking position on a high hill one mile south of the river, I halted for a desperate struggle. The enemy advanced in overwhelming numbers and with renewed confidence at the sight of the small force in front of them, for Captains Langhorne and Adams and Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols with their commands were ahead of the train on duty. The fight lasted nearly an hour, but I was at last forced to fall back.

Elliott, Gordon, Slayback, Hooper, Smith, Blackwell, Williams, and a host of other officers seemed to rise higher and higher as the danger increased, and were always where the tide of battle rolled deepest and darkest. It was an evening to try the hearts of my best and bravest, and rallying around me they even surpassed all former days of high and heroic bearing.

Pressed furiously, and having to cross a deep and treacherous stream, I did not offer battle again until gaining a large hill in front of the entire army, formed in line of battle, where I sent orders for Colonel Jackman to join me immediately. It was a fearful hour. The long and weary days of marching and fighting were culminating, and the narrow issue of life or death stood out all dark and barren as a rainy sea. The fight was to be made now, and General Price, with the pilot's wary eye, saw the storm-cloud sweep down, growing larger and larger and darker and darker. They came upon me steadily and calm. I waited until they came close enough and gave them volley for volley, shot for shot. For fifteen minutes both lines stood the pelting of the leaden hail without flinching, and the incessant roar of musketry rang out wildly and shrill, all separate sounds blending in a universal crash. The fate of the army hung upon the result, and our very existence tottered and tossed in the smoke of the strife. The red sun looked down upon the scene, and the redder clouds floated away with angry, sullen glare. Slowly, slowly my old brigade was melting away. The high-toned and chivalric Dobbin, formed on my right, stood by me in all that fiery storm, and Elliott's and Gordon's voices sounded high above the rage of the conflict: "My merry men, fight on."

All that men could do had been done. For five days and nights Thompson's and Slayback's commands had fought and marched and marched and fought, and now, under concentrated and accumulated fire of heavy odds, the left of General Thompson's brigade reeled back over the prairie, the Federals following with furious yells; but the right, under Colonel Elliott, met the advancing wave and broke their front line in every direction by charging furiously the rear of the enemy pressing hard after the left of Thompson's brigade.

Now Colonel Jackman, who had done his duty well in another part of the field, came rushing up to avenge his fallen comrades. Going into line at a gallop, and opening ranks to let the retreating brigade through, he charged down upon the rushing enemy like a thunderbolt, driving them back and scattering their front line badly. This charge saved us, and the day's work was done. The Federals halted, reformed their lines, brought up artillery, and fired away at long range. Very slowly the army moved away without molestation, and darkness came

down alike upon the dying and the dead, and the stars came out, and a weird and dreary silence hushed the air to stillness and repose.

On the night of the 24th [25th], on the Marmiton River, Colonel Jackman, by order, burned that portion of the train devoted to the sacrifice, and brought up the rear all that day and night to Carthage, where we encamped on the night of the 25th [26th]. On the evening of the 28th, while comfortably resting a few miles south of Newtonia, a large Federal force drove in our outlying pickets quite briskly and came charging on with their usual vitality. Dismounting every man of my division, I formed my line of battle just in time to meet the onset. Jackman held the right and protected two pieces of Collins' artillery, which opened immediately with good effect. Thompson and Slayback were on the left, and I sent a good detachment under Major Gordon to watch well my extreme left flank, and then moved steadily forward with a loud and ringing cheer. The men never hesitated from the first, but drove the enemy all the time before them and advanced two miles into the prairie, exposed to a heavy artillery fire from the first, and if I had had a mounted regiment of my own command I could have charged and taken their splendid battery. Two detached companies of Thompson's brigade (Captains Langhorne's and Adams') did excellent service on the extreme right.

Night closed the contest, and another beautiful victory had crowned the Confederate arms. This success was of eminent advantage to our army, fought as it was when some were urging the old and horrible cry of demoralization, re-enforcements, and no ammunition. That night about 12 o'clock I withdrew, leaving Lieutenant-Colonel Erwin to watch well the enemy's movements until the next day. He left at 8 o'clock the following morning, and our retreat was continued to Cane Hill unmolested and undisturbed. At Cane Hill, in the midst of a pelting snow-storm, I furnished a detail of 500 men, under Colonel Elliott, and Collins' battery, to report to General Fagan for an attack upon Fayetteville. He complimented them for their gallantry and courage, and they rejoined me the next day after making the fight.

With as much rapidity and comfort as possible the march was continued to the Arkansas River. I would here state, however, that after all danger was over, by permission of General Price I sent Colonels Hunter, Schnable, Nichols, and Slayback with their commands to Northwestern Arkansas to recruit both men and horses and gather up what recruits had been left when the expedition to Missouri commenced. After crossing the Arkansas River provisions were scarce, flour a myth, and salt numbered with the things that were. Yet we got along as well as could be expected, and only when actually suffering did I ask of General Price permission to return to the Canadian and kill and jerk beef. After losing many valuable horses and resorting to almost every expedient to get my battery through, I arrived at Boggy Depot with my command tired, weary, and very hungry. Here cattle were procured, and the question of getting the guns along no longer disturbed the quartermaster. I feel proud that not a gun of my battery was lost except the rifled piece that burst in action, and I can safely say that no battery ever contained a more gallant or daring captain—one that would go farther and stay longer and fight harder than the one commanded by Capt. R. A. Collins.

To mention all who showed high and noble courage on the field would exceed the limits of even a lengthy report, but Colonels Jackman, Gordon, Elliott, Hunter, Nichols, Schnable, Smith, Hooper, Blackwell,

Cravens, and Erwin; Majors Gordon, McDaniel, Vivien, and Yontz (who was killed); Captains Langhorne, Adams, McCoy, Wood, Franklin, Lea, and Lieutenants Plattenberg, Gill, and many others showed qualities which stamp them as soldiers, heroes, and Confederates. Colonel Schnable, whose voice sounds like a raging lion, is brave, cool, and will charge from 100 men to 10,000. Colonel Hunter is always cool, always ready to fight, and his judgment never at fault. Col. Benjamin Elliott, the grim Massena of the conflict, never quits a post until all hope is gone and death stares him in the face. Colonel Smith and Lieutenant-Colonel Hooper (both wounded) are men the Confederate Army may well be proud of. Captain Williams, of my advance, than whom there are no braver or better, and the young Captain Maurice Langhorne, of my escort, deserve promotion for gallantry on the field. Brig. Gen. M. Jeff. Thompson needs nothing here to establish a reputation already known over the United States. He was always with his brigade, and that was always where the firing was heaviest. Col. A. W. Slayback won for himself a name and reputation for daring and gallantry that has no superior. Lieutenant-Colonel Blackwell, the scarred veteran of fifty battles, maintained his high reputation. Lieutenant-Colonel Erwin, always calm and cool, exhibited eminent abilities on the field. Capts. C. G. Jones, Heber Price, Toney, Elliott, Neale, Shindler, Ferrell, and many others displayed distinguished gallantry.

But why mention a few names when all acted so well? Amid all the trying hours of our perilous expedition my command never failed to rally and to form whenever and wherever ordered.

Although the expedition was full of hardships and suffering in some respects, necessary upon such a long and protracted march, yet General Price accomplished much, and stamped his expedition as one of the most brilliant of the war. Large numbers of Federals were withdrawn from Sherman; large numbers kept from going to him; vast quantities of Government supplies used and destroyed; five splendid railroads visited with almost irreparable damage; large levies of recruits made; many prisoners captured; a beacon-light of hope and help reared in the dark night of despotism and oppression; the Southern heart stimulated and encouraged; the weakness of Federal dominion tested, defied, and thrown down; the wrongs of accumulated years avenged, and a great thrill of electric hope, pride, strength, and resistance sent coursing through every vein and artery of the South.

General Price had elements in his command so weak, so helpless, so incongruous that no human hand could control them, and these elements were fastened upon him by the very nature of the expedition, growing and springing directly from it. Time will vindicate the greatness of the scheme, history crown it with the laurel wreath of fame.

I am, colonel, very respectfully,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

Lieut. Col. L. A. MACLEAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Missouri.

Owing to the unfortunate accident of having all my books and papers destroyed of this expedition, there may be inaccuracies in the names of places and the dates of events, but in the whole is generally correct.

No. 93.

Reports of Brig. Gen. M. Jeff. Thompson, C. S. Army, commanding Shelby's brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SHELBY'S BRIGADE,
Bonham, Tex., November 24, 1864.

GENERAL: Upon the 6th day of October, 1864, while in camp on the Osage River, Mo., I received the following order:

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 21. HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF MISSOURI, *Camp No. 37, October 6, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. Col. David Shanks having been temporarily disabled by wounds received in his gallant forcing of the crossing at Prince's Ford, Brig. Gen. M. Jeff. Thompson is temporarily assigned to the command of Shelby's brigade, lately commanded by Col. D. Shanks.

By order of Major-General Price:

L. A. MACLEAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Brig. Gen. M. JEFF. THOMPSON.

In conformity with the above order I assumed command of Shelby's brigade on the morning of the 7th of October, and it is therefore my duty to report the action of this brigade from that date until the present time. Colonel Shanks was left in the neighborhood of the place where he fell and was captured by the enemy, which will account for the report of the action of the brigade from the opening of the campaign to the battle on the Osage on the 6th of October being made by another. On the 7th of October on our march toward Jefferson City we were rejoined by Colonel Gordon's regiment that had been detached at Westphalia to go by Castle Rock, and marching in the column under your immediate command we passed westward and in sight of Jefferson City to a position southwest and three miles away from the city and encamped. During this night a detachment under command of Major McDaniel, of Elliott's battalion, proceeded to the Pacific Railroad and destroyed the water station and several bridges on the stream, up the valley of which the railroad leaves the Missouri River. On our march around Jefferson City on the 7th the batteries in the fort south of the capital constantly fired at us, but all of their shot fell short or missed their aim and we had no casualties. On the 8th we marched with the main army and encamped in the neighborhood of Russellville. On the night of the 8th Colonel Smith's regiment was sent to the Pacific Railroad to destroy as much as possible, and to proceed toward California, a town on the railroad. On the morning of the 9th my brigade was detached from the main army and ordered to proceed to the town of California, which we did, but found it already occupied by Colonel Smith. We were at California but a short time when we were joined by yourself and staff and ordered to proceed toward Boonville. While at California I ordered the water station burned, and our quartermasters and commissaries took possession of such articles as were needed in their respective departments, but I did not allow the men to break ranks, and no disorders were committed while I remained in the town. A party of men had been to the town the night before our arrival who committed some depredations, and Smith's regiment had helped themselves pretty freely before my arrival, but those under my immediate command acted like good sol-

diers. We proceeded on our march toward Boonville without especial incident until within four miles, when you with the advance guard, commanded by Captain Williams, struck the enemy's pickets, and at full speed drove them toward the town. Your order to me to follow with the brigade as speedily as possible was obeyed, but from the long march to that point (thirty-six miles) and the fact that at the mill near the road rations were being issued to the men as they passed, we did not move as compactly as would have been desirable, but the zeal of each individual man was sufficient to make the charge over the four miles distance to the town not of long duration, and the regiments were soon formed at the positions assigned them, and the battery of Captain Collins was at hand to open when necessary.

At this time you notified me that the garrison of the enemy had surrendered and ordered me to receive and take charge of the prisoners. I marched Shanks' regiment (dismounted) down to receive the formal surrender, and must compliment them for the soldierly and courteous manner in which they treated the prisoners, for many of them were known to be men who scarcely deserved such treatment. Having furnished the division provost-marshal with the men he required to guard the town, the brigade was withdrawn to the southern limits of the corporation and encamped. We had marched forty miles this day, the last four of which was at full speed, and the men and horses were both much fatigued.

On the morning of the 10th of October we were ordered to a position four miles west of Boonville. On the 12th we were ordered out to meet the enemy, but after several marches and countermarches we returned to camp without having met them. While at camp near Boonville a detachment from my brigade was ordered to proceed toward the Pacific Railroad under charge of Lieut. James Wood, adjutant of Elliott's battalion, and they burned the bridge at Otterville and destroyed the road in other ways. On the 13th we marched with the army and encamped at Mr. Marshall's, on the road from Boonville to Jonesborough. On the night of the 13th I, by order, sent Col. A. W. Slayback with his command to proceed in a southwest direction to find and report the strength and position of the enemy who were reported to be moving from Jefferson City. On the 14th we marched to Jonesborough and encamped on the south side of Salt Fork. Just after we had gone into camp the following order was brought to me:

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF MISSOURI,
No. —. } *Camp No. 44, October 14, 1864.*

GENERAL: You will at once send Brigadier-General Thompson with not less than 800 or 1,000 men and one section of artillery to Longwood and from thence to Sedalia to attack the Federal force at that point, should he deem it prudent. You will also instruct him to bring back with him a drove of cattle and mules said to be in that neighborhood, and return with as little delay as practicable.

By order of Major-General Price:

L. A. MACLEAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Brig. Gen. JO. O. SHELBY, Provisional Army, C. S.,
Commanding Division.

Upon this order and your verbal instructions I started before sundown with about 1,200 men and a section of Collins' battery, under Lieutenant Harris, and proceeded to Longwood, where I found Colonel Slayback with his recruits, with information that a large force of the enemy had passed between him and Sedalia that day. You had directed

me to report direct to General Price, as you were to go toward Glasgow, and the information furnished by Colonel Slayback was sent to General Price.

At daybreak on the morning of the 15th I moved southward toward Sedalia until I reached the main road from Otterville toward Georgetown, along which the enemy had passed. I have learned positively that a large body of cavalry had passed the afternoon of the 14th and had encamped beyond Georgetown, and that a large force of infantry had started from California the day before and were then supposed to be on the La Mine. I concluded that I could pass between these bodies of troops and take Sedalia and escape before they could interfere, and probably divert and delay them if they were moving to some rendezvous.

I, therefore, after resting my horses for several hours, took up the line of march for Sedalia. This town is situated in the midst of a vast prairie, and the only manner to surprise it was by a direct and rapid march. I proceeded along the main road in column with Elliott's regiment in advance, and we found the enemy's pickets about one mile from the town at the end of a lane. We approached within pistol-shot before they discovered we were Confederate States troops, and the instant they fired Elliott charged, and over the intervening open prairie between the lane and the town friend and foe alike rushed for the lines of the Federals. Elliott and his men leaped the rifle-pits with the pickets, and the Federals near this point of entry immediately surrendered to Elliott, but during the delay in forming the other regiments of the brigade and getting the artillery in position, which I thought safer than a general charge, the enemy recovered from their first panic and drove Elliott out of the lines. Sedalia is defended by two redoubts at opposite angles of the town, and continuous lines of rifle-pits all around. As soon as the guns were in position and opened another panic seized the garrison, and nearly all of them broke and fled. As speedily as possible forces were sent to cut off the retreat, and in a few minutes more we were again in the town, and all who were in the lines at the time were captured. The guns continued to play upon the redoubts for some time before we found they were unoccupied, for their defenders had fled without lowering their flags, which were still floating. As soon as the town was in our possession I used every means in my power to control the men, to prevent pillage, and also to secure as much valuable material as was possible for the army; but in spite of every effort there was considerable plundering of the stores, but I am confident the private houses were respected. The guns were kept in a position to command the railroad, and Gordon's regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Blackwell, remained in line to support them. Colonel Slayback's command was used as a provost guard, but the other regiments, having been broken in their charges, were less manageable, but still I am proud to say no outrage or murder was committed. The prisoners that we captured were paroled, as mentioned in a special report to corps headquarters.

Just after dark we took up our line of march to return to the army, but not knowing what reports might reach the enemy of our strength, we did not travel the usual roads, but took the by-roads, leaving Georgetown to the west, and encamped on Muddy.

We captured at Sedalia several hundred stand of arms and many pistols, and several wagon loads of goods suitable for soldiers. On the morning of the 16th I continued the march in a northwest direction, hoping to reach Cook's Store, at which point I had written to General Price that I would encamp, but hearing repeated rumors of the move-

ments of the enemy to the west of us, and at Brownsville being assured that they were in force about Cook's Store, I turned northward and encamped near Dans Fork. On the 17th I proceeded northward until I reached Waverly. Here I received orders to turn eastward to join the main army that had awaited the return of our expedition and the one under General Clark to Glasgow. I obeyed the order and marched to Salt Fork, east of Grand Pass, and encamped. On the 18th we marched in our proper place in column toward Lexington. On the 19th we were met by the enemy. My brigade was in front, and we drove him with varied but uninterrupted success until he was westward of the city of Lexington, when with a charge we drove him entirely away, and followed him until the darkness of night rendered further pursuit impossible.

In this day's action many feats were performed worthy of the pen of the historian, and I would not do my duty were I to fail to chronicle for history that the courage and steadiness of the recruits under the command of Cols. A. W. Slayback and John T. Crisp upon this occasion fully equaled the chivalry of their veteran associates under command of Colonels Gordon, Smith, Elliott, and Erwin. Those under Major Johnson also deserve notice, and Collins' veteran battery maintained their reputation.

After the pursuit of the enemy was given up we were ordered to proceed by the river road down to Lexington, and we encamped in the corporate limits of the city. On the morning of the 20th my brigade passed through the streets of Lexington and took its position in the column of march for Independence, and encamped above Wellington. On the 21st we moved in the center of the column, Marmaduke's division in front. On approaching the Little Blue River the enemy was found in position to dispute our passage. We were ordered to the left of Marmaduke's division, and having dismounted we soon forced the crossing in our front, and following the enemy from position to position, several of which were very strong and well defended, we drove him toward the town of Independence. I met General Marmaduke several times during this day's fighting, but his troops were so far to our right that I made no movement in immediate co-operation with them, but steadily drove the enemy with the Shelby brigade until nearly night, and entered the town in line of battle just at dark, having fought dismounted for seven miles. The brigade on this day displayed patience, perseverance, and true courage, for mounted men generally dislike these long fights on foot. The officers all did their duty and the men deserve especial credit. On the 22d we left Independence at 9 a. m. and took the road to Westport. We were again in the rear of Marmaduke's division, but were soon ordered to take a left-hand road and push for the Big Blue River to force a crossing south of the main crossing. We soon reached the point indicated and found that the enemy had obstructed the crossing by felling trees, and were disposed to dispute our passage. A portion of the brigade were dismounted, and in the face of the enemy waded the stream and made a lodgment upon the west bank. Others soon followed, and we drove the enemy so fast that the axes they had used to fell the trees were left by them, and they were speedily put to use in opening a road for our artillery and the train to cross. The brigade continued to press the enemy (having remounted the dismounted men) to near the town of Westport. Gordon's regiment had been detached to accompany you toward the left, and the gallant fight made by it on this day was under your personal direction. While still following the enemy an order was received

to fall back toward the Blue and to place my pickets. I obeyed the order and the brigade started down the road, with the exception of Erwin's regiment that remained to picket the road.

At this time a messenger met the head of the column with orders to hurry to the assistance of yourself, who with Jackman's brigade and Gordon's regiment had been fighting the enemy on the extreme left. The column started at a gallop, led by the gallant Slayback, who happened to have his command in front when the order was received, and we were soon upon the field that you were fighting upon. The brigade was thrown into line as speedily as possible, but the enemy retired before we went into action. Darkness had now arrived and we were ordered to bivouac in line of battle, with Jackman's brigade in the open prairie, and thus we passed the night.

On the morning of the 23d we were ordered to march toward Westport, and we soon found ourselves confronted by the enemy, who had a battery commanding the road and covering the approaches to the town. Collins' battery was placed in position and Elliott's regiment and Williams' command were left to cover the guns and right of the road. I went with Gordon's, Smith's, Slayback's, and Johnson's commands to the left of the road and advanced upon the enemy. The fighting became very spirited, and upon our advancing, Colonel Smith's horse was shot and his men fell back, exposing the left of Gordon's regiment. One of the regiments of Jackman's brigade charged the force that had fronted Smith, but this regiment was also compelled to fall back. At this stage I ordered Slayback and Johnson with their recruits to charge this force of the enemy, and it was done in most gallant style, driving them from the timber in which they were posted and occupying it themselves. Gordon's regiment had stood firmly under a galling fire all this time, having in its front an enemy posted behind a stone fence that could not be charged on account of intervening fences.

About this time that gallant charge in column down the road was made by McGhee's regiment of Arkansas troops which resulted so disastrously to the brave men who made it. Having gained the grove of timber we were not long in flanking the stone fence behind which the enemy was, and soon dislodged him. It was in this movement that Lieut. James Wood was wounded while conversing with me. We now took position behind the same fence that the enemy had held, but the position in line of my regiments was changed. Slayback was on the right, next Johnson, next Smith, and Gordon had the left, with Jackman's brigade still on his left. We quietly held this situation for some time waiting for a supply of ammunition, which was delayed in arriving by our distance from the train. During this delay Collins' rifled guns were moved up to the position that had been occupied by the enemy's guns and opened. One of the rifled guns burst the first fire. As soon as we were supplied with ammunition and prepared to move forward orders were received for us to fall back, and we did so in line of battle under a heavy fire from the enemy's batteries. We had just passed through the fields in which we had been fighting into the open prairie when you ordered me to form the line facing eastward, and shortly after you ordered us to charge the enemy then in our front. Our line was not complete, but the regiments that were formed bravely threw themselves against the foe, and breaking their first line we were surprised to find a long line of infantry and a battery in position immediately in their rear. At this instant, while our lines were broken and our long-range guns discharged, the enemy with a fresh line charged our right, and then for the first time on this campaign Shelby's brigade

turned its back to the foe. You had formed several of the regiments of the brigade in our rear to support us, but as we rushed back the stampede seemed to become contagious, and soon the whole command was in wild disorder with the enemy charging at our heels. It was impossible to rally the men as a body, but many brave fellows took advantage of positions to delay the enemy and let the others escape. The enemy pursued that portion of the men that remained with me to the village of New Santa Fé, where we turned to the left and met Colonel Slayback and Major Johnson with some of their men. We now assumed some order, but avoided the enemy, and moved toward the eastward, and in a few miles joined the main army, a portion of the men being with me and the major part with Colonel Slayback. We encamped this night on the waters of Grand River.

On the 24th we marched southward with no event of interest occurring. On the 25th we resumed our march and reached the Osage River about noon. We were here preparing to go into camp when you ordered me to form the men and move northwestwardly to hold in check the enemy, who were approaching from that direction. I soon perceived them advancing, but upon my forming line and advancing they fell back, and we passed over the ridge out of sight of the road we had traveled. Slayback and Erwin were sent to a field to our left, and Smith, Elliott, Gordon, and Williams constituted my main line. We remained in this position a short time, when an order was received to quietly withdraw and cross the Osage. I started the main line for the ford, and moved to a point to direct those on our left. Our movement was made very leisurely, and not until I reached the ford did I learn of the disasters of the past few hours. We were ordered to dispute the passage of the enemy and delay his approach. The dispositions were made under your direction, and we quietly awaited him. The party left at the ford were flanked on both sides and retired without firing a shot, and soon the enemy appeared on the south side of the stream. Our first line, composed of Elliott's and Williams' regiments, coolly witnessed the formation and advance of the enemy, and when within range commenced firing. The impossibility of loading Enfield rifles on horseback now became apparent again, for after one discharge the horses became excited, and when the enemy charged, which they soon did, there was nothing to do but retreat. The men held their horses well in hand and could have been controlled, but upon approaching our second line it commenced firing before we reached it and broke before we passed through. There was a third line formed by Erwin's regiment that had the advantage of a ditch, which covered the road, and had it not been for the check that he gave the enemy very many of the brigade would have been killed or captured. We soon passed out of immediate danger, and the men formed again very readily, although all regimental organization was lost.

Were it not out of place in a report like this I would here speak of the manner of rallying troops, for in this day's experience was the experience of many years of an ordinary soldier's life, and I watched the manner closely that I may hereafter, should necessity require it, know how to control men in a stampede. All ran, yet none were frightened, and as there was no discipline I found a quiet voice and ordinary remark attracted more attention than the vehement language and orders that some use. Our lines were formed and broken several times this day, but our loss was small. Each colonel retained a part of his command about him, but the brigade was not formed together after

the first line was broken. I was with one line and then with another, and came off the field with Colonel Elliott after night had set in. Our march was continued to the Marmiton River, where we encamped.

Early in the morning of the 26th we were in the saddle, but our march was much delayed by a mistake in the road by the head of the column. The train was burned on this morning. After a tedious day's march we reached the waters of the Neosho, and resting the men for a few hours we proceeded to Carthage, where the army was encamped, reaching it after daybreak on the 27th. On the 27th we left Carthage at noon and marched to Shoal Creek, and got into camp late at night on account of a mill-race which had delayed the whole army, each man his portion of the time. On the morning of the 28th my brigade was given the advance, and we were directed to move on Newtonia and attack the force stationed there. We were delayed by the duty of checking the stragglers from our army passing to the front; but we entered the prairie in which Newtonia is situated without being discovered and moved up toward the town. When the advance guard came in sight there was great commotion among the garrison, and they soon took to flight, and the advance, under Captain Williams and Colonel Erwin, attempted to intercept them, but the distance was too great, and they only succeeded in overtaking and killing the commanding officer (one Captain Christian), who was noted for his bloodthirsty brutality. The brigade soon reached the town, but passed through to camp some two miles south. Colonel Erwin was directed to remain near the road to Cassville, upon which the enemy had retreated. We had been in camp but a few hours when our scouts reported that the main body of the enemy were approaching on the same road we had come. I was ordered to form the brigade on foot and proceed to meet them. I did so, and advanced into the prairie to a fence we were directed to form on; but soon we were notified that it was a false alarm, and returned to our camps. We had scarcely commenced the ordinary duties of camp when we were again ordered out, and proceeding to the same place found the enemy drawn up before us on the opposite side of the small field. The firing commenced immediately, and in a few minutes our line bravely crossed the fence and advanced upon the enemy, crossing the field under a hot fire of artillery and small-arms, and drove the enemy into the open prairie. Not stopping at this second fence an instant, we advanced into the prairie and continued to drive the enemy, never letting them form to charge, which they endeavored to do. There was some mounted men on our right, but no supports near our rear, and I halted the line after we had advanced so far that we were exposed to flanking. We remained in this position until the enemy had retired their line, when we fell back toward our camp, receiving several shots from the enemy's artillery as we retired.

It would be invidious to speak of the courage and gallantry of any officer where all did their duty so fully; but it would be neglect not to mention George Collins, the color-bearer of Gordon's regiment, who carried his flag as high as both hands would reach in the front of the line. While crossing the second fence in the advance the brave Colonel Smith leaped upon it to cheer his men on, and he was wounded in three places at the instant, and was left at our hospital and fell into the hands of the enemy.

This was our last fight with the enemy on this campaign, and from Newtonia to this point we have had but to contend against cold and hunger and fatigue—those anticipated hardships of a soldier's life which task that noble kind of courage called endurance—and I am

glad to say that the brigade displayed this attribute of a good soldier as well, if not better, than any in the army, and have reached this point in as good condition and spirits as could be expected.

There were brilliant acts of courage that should be described by the pen of the poet, and severe suffering that should be painted with gloomy shades; but this "unvarnished tale" is sufficient for Shelby's brigade, for its reputation is established.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

M. JEFF. THOMPSON,

Brig. Gen., Missouri State Guards, Comdg. Shelby's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH O. SHELBY, P. A., C. S.,

Commanding Division, Bonham, Tex.

ADDENDA.

Return of casualties in Shelby's brigade during the Missouri expedition, August 29 to December 2, 1864.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Elliott's regiment	.....	7	*3	15	.....	.....	25
Gordon's regiment	.....	15	†5	45	2	39	106
Shanks' regiment	.....	3	‡3	19	.....	10	35
Smith's regiment	.....	10	§5	35	1	19	70
Collins' battery	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	2	3
‖Total	.....	36	16	114	3	70	239

HEADQUARTERS SHELBY'S BRIGADE,

Laynesport, Ark., December 4, 1864.

Col. L. A. MACLEAN, C. S. Army,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Price's Corps, present:

COLONEL: You call upon me for a report of the number of prisoners of war that were captured by my command at Sedalia, Mo., on the 15th of October and paroled by me on that occasion. I have the honor to report that, having no printed paroles with me, and the time not allowing me to write them, I was compelled to take verbal paroles, and, also, as I did not know how it was intended to classify the kinds of troops that were fighting us, and being desirous to make a favorable impression upon the home guards and enrolled militia, I divided the prisoners into three classes, viz, the home guard, of whom there were several hundred; the enrolled militia, of whom there were some seventy-five, and the volunteer militia and regular U. S. Volunteers, of whom there were forty-seven enlisted men and three commissioned officers, viz, Capt. O. B. Queen and Lieut. R. T. Berry, Company M, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia; Lieut. E. Knapp, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, U. S. Volunteers. The home guard I released unconditionally and the others

*Capts. L. M. Major, W. N. Thorp, and Lieut. James McIlhaney wounded.

†Capt. Benjamin M. Neale and Lieuts. J. B. Flenner, Haynie, Charles J. Lewis, and Ridge wounded.

‡Col. D. Shanks mortally wounded. Capt. George B. Webb and Lieuts. J. P. Cochran and James L. Tucker wounded.

§Col. M. W. Smith, Lieut. Col. J. C. Hooper, Capt. Thomas H. Lea, and Lieuts. J. W. White and T. J. McClure wounded.

‖Slayback's and Johnson's commands not accounted for.

swore to the usual parole, the officers pledging their honor, and promising to give to each of those paroled a certificate that I had paroled them. When my report of the expedition shall be written I will give all the particulars.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

M. JEFF. THOMPSON,
Brig. Gen., Missouri State Guards, Comdg. Shelby's Brigade.

No. 94.

Report of Col. Sidney D. Jackman, Jackman's Missouri Cavalry, commanding brigade.

HDQRS. JACKMAN'S BRIG., SHELBY'S DIV., ARMY OF MO.,
Clarksville, Tex., November 30, 1864.

SIR: I beg leave to submit the following report of the operations of this brigade from the 20th of August last to the present time:

This brigade on the 20th of August last was encamped near Batesville, and consisted of the regiments of Colonels Hunter and Coffee and my own regiment, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols, and the battalion of Lieutenant-Colonel Schnable, its entire strength being about 1,500. Of this force about 500 men were armed with either guns or pistols or both. On the 19th of August I received orders from Brigadier-General Shelby to move with the armed portion of my command to Fairview, in the State of Arkansas, and there form a junction with Colonel Shanks, commanding brigade. At an early hour on the morning of the 20th I set my command in motion, moving about 500 armed men. We reached Fairview in the evening of that day, when I reported to the brigadier-general in person. On the 21st, 22d, and 23d we moved with the entire force by slow marches in the direction of the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad, and encamped in the evening of the last day thirteen miles from this road.

At daylight on the morning of the 24th I again moved out my command, and after marching in common time for five or six miles I was directed by General Shelby to detach Colonel Hunter with his regiment and send him on a road intersecting the railroad at a point some ten miles west of Devall's Bluff and east of Ashley's Station, where he intended to strike the enemy, and move up the remainder of the command at a brisk trot. Marching in quick time I soon reached the edge of the prairie and found Colonel Shanks already engaging the enemy. I immediately deployed into line on his right, but before any part of my brigade became engaged the enemy, numbering 150 men, surrendered. After the capture of this force by the direction of General Shelby I fell back to the timber and formed on the left of the battery for its protection. At 2 p. m. I received orders to move upon and capture the force occupying Jones' Hay Station, on the railroad. On reaching its vicinity I found it already partially invested by the forces respectively commanded by Colonel Hunter, Lieutenant-Colonel Erwin, Major McDaniel, and Captain Williams. I formed a line fronting the enemy, with my right resting on the left of Lieutenant-Colonel Erwin and my left in the direction of Colonel Hunter's right, but with a considerable interval between the two. Upon learning the situation I sent a flag by the hand of Major Beard and Lieutenant Mills, of my staff,

to the officer commanding the fort, requiring an immediate surrender of the place, and was replied to by him that his duty demanded of him to hold the place as long as possible. Being satisfied that the enemy could make a vigorous defense, and that his capture would require an expenditure of life disproportionate to the value of the fort if the attack was made by me unsupported, I sent a staff officer to General Shelby requesting him to send me a section of artillery. It was not long before he arrived in person with the artillery and the command of Colonel Shanks. Colonel Shanks was placed in position on my left, and his command and that of mine dismounted, and under a well-directed fire of the artillery moved forward in a charge on the fort. The enemy yielded, making but a feeble resistance. Thus by this action, without any sacrifice, some 400 prisoners were secured, together with a large lot of stores. Colonel Nichols captured the Federal banner—a beautiful one, indeed.

Immediately after the capture my command was ordered to mount and form to receive a force of the enemy that was already engaging Colonel Hunter on the extreme left. Colonel Hunter fell back slowly and in excellent order, and the enemy had soon approached near enough for the remainder of my command to engage him. He was met by a severe fire, which was sustained for about an hour, at the end of which time I was directed by General Shelby to fall back to the timber. I had no difficulty in holding my men in hand, and they fell back without confusion to the cover of the wood.

This was the first engagement in which I had commanded the troops of Colonel Hunter and of Schnable's battalion, and a good many of the men of my own regiment were new to me. As a matter of course I felt great anxiety as to their conduct on the field, especially as they were engaged upon the right of Colonel Shanks' veteran brigade; but my fears were soon relieved, and I am gratified in believing that the behavior of officers and men met the approbation of Brigadier-General Shelby.

During this engagement I lost 5 men killed and 37 wounded. My horse among the many was shot and abandoned.

The command moved all night, and reached Stony Point about 10 a. m. of the 25th, where we camped the remainder of that day and night. On the morning of the 26th we were again put in motion, Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols being detached with his regiment by the brigadier-general commanding to form a part of the rear guard of the army, the enemy having advanced and made a demonstration. The remainder of my brigade being in front moved on uninterrupted. During the night of the 26th Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols reported to me, and my command being again united I moved in the direction of Batesville, near which place I went into camp on the 31st of August. From this time to the 7th of September we were disturbed by occasional news of the advance of the enemy that caused from time to time a change in the disposition of the command, but still remained encamped near Batesville.

On the 8th and 9th of September, by an order from General Shelby, I moved in the direction of Hookrum, near which point I camped for several days. On the 14th I received orders to move to Pocahontas. I reached its vicinity on the 17th and encamped at Bollinger's Mills, on Fourche de Mas. On the 19th I moved to Doniphan, on the border of Missouri. The town had been recently sacked and evacuated by a small force of the enemy. Under an order from General Shelby I furnished a detail of thirty men to Colonel Johnson, who started in pur-

suit and overtook him some twenty miles distant. During a little engagement that followed we sustained a loss of 2 men killed and 5 wounded. From the 20th to the 26th there was nothing to disturb the quiet of the march. On the night of the 26th we camped six miles from the Iron Mountain road and on the dirt road leading from Farmington to Potosi. On the 27th we moved across the railroad, which we found effectually damaged by Colonel Shanks' brigade, upon Potosi. The town and force defending it were already captured. On the 28th the command moved to Caledonia, and at 8 p. m. the brigade was ordered to join in the pursuit of the forces retreating from Pilot Knob. This pursuit was continued during the night and day succeeding. About 6 p. m. the rear of the enemy's column was overtaken, and my brigade was formed as a support for Captain Collins' battery, but night coming on and the enemy having secured a strong position, we were ordered to fall back to camp. On the 30th of September and 1st of October the command moved along the Rolla railroad, frequently halting to tear it up. The road was severely injured.

On the evening of the 2d [1st?] we turned in the direction of Union, some ten miles north of the Rolla road, General Clark's brigade being in advance. We reached the town at 4 p. m., but before my line was formed the artillery opened, and the enemy taking the alarm, only an inconsiderable number were captured. In this engagement I lost 1 brave soldier. On the 3d Colonel Coffee with his regiment was relieved from duty in the brigade by order of Brigadier-General Shelby and directed to report to Major-General Price. On the 4th, 5th, and 6th I moved in the direction of Jefferson City. In the evening of the 6th my command crossed the Osage River and was ordered forward to join Colonel Shanks, who had already encountered the enemy in small force. The pursuit was continued for about three miles, when, not coming up with the Federals and night being upon us, I was ordered to halt for the night. On the 7th the command moved on the road to Jefferson City, and on reaching a point two miles from the city we turned to the left and halted for the night in line of battle fronting the enemy. By order of General Shelby Lieutenant-Colonel Schnable with his battalion was placed on picket duty a mile and a half from Jefferson City. During the morning of the 8th the enemy drove in his vedettes, and after making several unsuccessful charges upon him with superior numbers, finally flanked him and forced him to withdraw with a loss of 2 killed and 5 wounded.

On the 8th, 9th, and 10th we moved toward Boonville, which place we reached during the evening of the latter day. At 3 p. m. of the 11th I was ordered on the Georgetown road, five miles out from Boonville, to meet a force of the enemy making a demonstration there. On reaching the point designated I found that the force had disappeared. At 4.30 p. m. I received an order from General Shelby to move across to the Tipton and Boonville road, a distance of seven miles, and fall upon the flank and rear of a force of the enemy in line of battle there. Immediately on the receipt of this order I moved my brigade rapidly in the direction indicated, but meeting with a good deal of difficulty in finding the road, and being compelled to march through a badly broken country without a road or guide, I did not succeed in coming up with the enemy until about dusk. Upon discovering him I formed so as to strike him in flank, but before my formation was complete he commenced withdrawing in column on the Tipton road. I moved at once in pursuit and pressed close upon him to the bridge across the Tête Saline River.

Finding a considerable force occupying the bottom on the other side, and knowing nothing of the country, I determined to rest the pursuit there until morning, and in the meantime communicate the situation to General Shelby. Falling back a mile with the major part of my command, I left Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols with his regiment on picket in front of the enemy. Colonel Hunter I placed in position three-quarters of a mile in the rear of Nichols, so that he might be in supporting distance and at the same time cover a road that made off from the main road at that point, while Lieutenant-Colonel Schnable was ordered to remain in line of battle 300 yards in the rear of Colonel Hunter, but fronting toward Boonville. I made this disposition of my force from the fact that I had not yet opened up communication with the town, and did not know but that a force of the enemy might be between me and it.

We continued to occupy this position during the night, and at daylight on the morning of the 12th, when the enemy opened on Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols. Having ascertained that my rear was clear, I ordered Colonel Hunter up and ordered him to take a position 300 yards in the rear of Nichols. After sustaining a vigorous fight for half an hour Nichols fell back slowly to the rear of Colonel Hunter, where he immediately reformed.

In the meantime Colonel Hunter became sharply engaged. After maintaining a brisk fight for half an hour he fell back on Lieutenant-Colonel Schnable. Satisfied by this time that the force of the enemy was largely superior to mine, I determined to fall back, so as to cover a road from Tipton to Boonville leading into the one we were now defending about a mile in our rear, and in order to secure a good position for my whole force. On reaching the point I had in view I dismounted Nichols' and Schnable's commands and placed them under the shelter of a fence, where they soon met the attack of the enemy. A fight ensued of an hour's length, after which I succeeded in driving the enemy back along the road over which we had but a short time before retreated and across the bridge over the Tête Saline River, a distance of one mile and a half, inflicting serious injury upon him.

During this engagement my command sustained a loss of 4 men killed and 20 wounded (Captain King, a brave officer, among the wounded), the loss falling heaviest on Schnable's battalion. A good many horses were killed and wounded. My own horse was severely shot.

The officers and men deserve great praise for the coolness and obstinacy with which they maintained this fight, holding their ground and falling back alike in perfect order. Number of my men in this engagement 600; that of the enemy a full brigade.

At the conclusion of the fight General Fagan with a portion of his command came upon the ground. The enemy having retreated, I was ordered to return to Boonville. At 2 a. m. on the morning of the 12th [13th?] we took up our line of march, and on the night of the 13th encamped on Blackwater. During this night I received orders to report a picked force of 500 men from my brigade to General Clark for an expedition to North Missouri.

I moved early on the morning of the 14th, and crossing the river at Arrow Rock I was ordered to co-operate with him in an attack on Glasgow. On reaching the suburbs of this place I was ordered to form on the left of General Clark's brigade and invest the town on the south. My line was soon formed and skirmishers thrown out, when at the command my men advanced gallantly. We soon met a galling fire from

the sharpshooters of the enemy, but advancing steadily we drove them into their intrenchments. A large number of my men had secured shelter within forty yards of the works, where they annoyed the enemy severely, when I was directed by General Clark to hold my position until further orders. A continued fire was kept up for several hours, when I visited the general for the purpose of urging him to move at once upon the fort. During our consultation negotiations for the surrender of the place were opened, which resulted in an agreement to surrender the place on condition that the men were to be treated as prisoners of war and the officers permitted to retain their side-arms and private property. This capture was a valuable one in the way of stores of all kinds and new and superior guns. About 800 prisoners were captured. While in this connection I would state that General Shelby from the south side of the river had opened fire upon the town two hours before our arrival, and was of great help to our assaulting column by his well-directed fire.

On the morning of the 16th I received orders to recross the river, and during the night of the 17th rejoined the main army, encamped on the Salt Fork of Blackwater. On the morning of the 21st we were in the saddle at sunrise, and moved to the crossing of Little Blue, at old Camp Holloway, where, by order, my whole command, with the exception of Nichols' regiment, was dismounted and thrown across the creek into line. This part of my command pressed forward eagerly, but did not succeed in reaching the enemy. The regiment of Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols made a spirited charge upon the enemy's line, breaking and driving it back in confusion. The conduct of himself and men was highly praised by all who witnessed it.

On the morning of the 22d, after having encamped the night previous at Independence, I was ordered out on the Kansas City road, with instructions to drive back the force of the enemy engaging our pickets on that road. When on reaching the point designated General Shelby arrived and directed me to turn to the right and guard the right flank of the army until the train passed, when I was to be relieved by General Fagan, and report to him with my command at the head of the column. At the proper time Nichols' and Schnable's commands were relieved, Hunter's and Coleman's regiments being directed to await orders. I moved at once with Nichols and Schnable to the front, when soon after crossing Big Blue I overtook and reported to General Shelby. I was directed by the general to move forward rapidly to the assistance of Colonel Gordon, who was being pressed by the enemy. I moved briskly across the prairie and soon came in sight of his force. Nichols' and Schnable's men fronted into line at a gallop. The enemy having fallen back to the cover of some small timber and in the rear of their artillery, which was playing upon us, I ordered a charge and the whole command swept forward in gallant style, driving the Federals, utterly routed and demoralized, from their shelter, pursuing them across the prairie, killing and capturing them in considerable numbers. They were completely broken, in their flight leaving in our hands a 24-pounder howitzer (brass), its caisson, and ammunition for it; also several wagons and teams.

With a squad of about 100 men I continued the pursuit for several miles, doing good work on the fleeing enemy. Upon my return to the field I found that part of my force left behind, having in the meantime been joined by the regiments of Colonels Hunter and Coleman, pressed by a considerable body of Federals, who had appeared from the direc-

tion of Westport. Notwithstanding the superiority of this force we succeeded in holding our ground until night. About dusk General Thompson arrived with re-enforcements, but too late for the action.

Our loss during the day was slight. Quite a number of horses were killed or wounded. Lieutenant-Colonels Nichols and Schnable had their horses killed. My horse was severely wounded.

The morning of the 23d at 9 a. m. my command, by direction of Brigadier-General Shelby, was moved out in line of battle in concert with General Thompson's to meet the enemy advancing from Westport. A severe fight soon ensued, which resulted in a temporary success to him. Our forces, however, soon rallied, and turning drove him from the field. About 12 o'clock I received an order from General Shelby to fall back across the prairie to the point where the gun was captured the evening before and report to General Fagan, who was in pressing need. I immediately moved out, and on the way met an order from General Fagan to move as rapidly as possible, as the enemy were demonstrating in heavy force on his front. Upon reaching the general I was ordered by him to dismount my men and receive a charge of the enemy's cavalry. I formed my men on foot and directed them to withhold their fire until the Federals were in point-blank range.

In the meantime they came on in a swinging trot, and when within eighty yards at the command a destructive fire was poured into them, killing and wounding a large number of men and horses, and causing their line to reel and break. The line of the enemy being much longer than ours, their right continued to advance, but turning and pouring a well-directed fire into it, it fell back in confusion. By this time the enemy were covering the prairie, threatening from every point, and my horses being exposed I ordered my men to mount. After mounting we formed a number of times in falling back and took position until the enemy disappeared, when I moved off in the rear of the army. During this last engagement, Captain Collins, of the battery of General Thompson's brigade, came to my assistance with his only remaining gun and fought gallantly until the command fell back.

In this fight my brigade, although placed in a perilous condition, on foot, and threatened by superior numbers, behaved with a steadiness and courage beyond common praise. A considerable loss was sustained by the brigade in the various engagements of these two days; some 25 men were killed and 80 wounded. We were so unfortunate as to lose Major Yontz, of Colonel Hunter's regiment, who received a wound from which he subsequently died. Major Brown, my assistant adjutant-general, was wounded in the thigh, and Captain Thompson, of my staff, was either killed or captured, which I have never ascertained. At this point the falling back of the army commenced and continued uninterrupted, so far as my brigade was concerned, until the evening of the 25th.

On the morning of this day I was moved out in advance of the train. About 1 o'clock I received an order from General Price to park the train and fall back to Osage River, to prevent the enemy from crossing that stream. I directed Major Brinker, chief quartermaster of the army, who was at his proper place, to park the train, and I moved back as rapidly as possible. I had not time to form before I was ordered to the front to protect the train, which the enemy were threatening. I had hardly executed the command when I received orders from General Shelby to return at once to the rear to his relief. I pressed rapidly on, and getting near enough to obtain a view of the scene of action, I discovered that General Thompson's brigade alone of

the entire force was engaged, and that it was outnumbered at least three to one. The general and his command were holding their ground in gallant style, though evidently about to yield the unequal contest. I threw my men into line at a full dash and ordered a charge, which was bravely executed through the retreating command of General Thompson. This charge was so promptly made that the enemy was driven back on his support. Finding myself largely outnumbered I withdrew, the enemy not attempting pursuit. During the remainder of this day's march my brigade, with a small portion of General Thompson's, brought up the rear of the army, remaining in this position during the night's encampment on the Marmiton River.

In this engagement I sustained a loss of 4 killed and 10 wounded.

On the morning of the 26th I furnished details to destroy the train ordered, covering with my brigade their operation and bringing up the rear the entire day. On the evening of the 28th, while in camp three miles south of Newtonia, I was ordered by General Shelby to move my entire command on foot to co-operate with General Thompson in repelling an attack from the enemy, who had again appeared. I was directed by him to leave Hunter's and Nichols' regiments to support the battery of the division, and to put the commands of Lieutenant-Colonel Schnable, Colonel Coleman, and Major Shaw into the fight. This order was executed at once. After engaging the enemy sharply for some little time he was driven back. The brigade sustained a loss of 10 wounded.

On the morning of the 30th Colonel Hunter, Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols, and Lieutenant-Colonel Schnable left the line of march of the main army, by permission of the brigadier-general commanding, in order to give their men an opportunity of visiting their friends in Northern Arkansas. At the same time Colonel Coleman left with his regiment. On the same day Captain Williams, with his regiment of recruits, was ordered to report to me, and this command with some small detachments constituted my force on this recent march. The retreat from the Missouri border to Red River was a severe trial to this regiment, and under their sufferings a great many of the men became insubordinate and were disposed to complain unnecessarily; but a large portion of their suffering was the result of their own inefficiency. It was frequently a difficult matter to obtain details from the command to procure beef for its own use, and finally they became so refractory that they would not leave the line of march to look for meat for themselves unless when stimulated by excessive hunger. They complain that they were reduced at one time to the necessity of subsisting on horse-flesh, but my settled opinion is that this resulted from their own indolence. I make this statement as I feel it due in justice to Major-General Price and Brigadier-General Shelby. I will say, however, that Captain Williams is to be excepted from this censure. He was unremitting in his attention to the command and never hesitated at any sacrifice of time or labor to secure cheerfulness in it.

In conclusion I feel that it would be unjust to fail in mentioning the meritorious services of a good many officers and soldiers of the brigade, yet when such a number did their duty and some must be omitted the discrimination may be unequally unfair. I must, however, draw your favorable attention to Colonel Hunter and Lieutenant-Colonel Fullbright, the last of whom has been recently promoted to his present position, but who on every occasion discharged his duty with soldierly care and courage; to Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols, who distinguished himself for his cavalry dash, and to Major Newton and to Lieutenant-Colonel

Schnable, who sustained his fighting reputation on every field, while Captains Marchbank and Rowland Wilson and Lemons were always conspicuous for their gallantry and won for themselves the most distinguished consideration. Captain Lemons was brave and energetic on the field, but deserves censure for leaving the command without permission.

The various members of my staff are entitled to my thanks for the constancy with which they everywhere supported me on this trying trip.

Major Beard, acting assistant adjutant-general, was at all times present where his duty called him, whether that point might be the post of danger or where the more tedious labors of his office called him.

I cannot close this list without paying a last tribute of respect to the memory of Capt. J. Drury Pulliam, my junior assistant adjutant-general. By permission he had gone in advance of the army into Missouri for the purpose of recruiting a command, when he was captured and brutally murdered. I had been intimately associated with him for two years, and had watched him when his character was tested by every conceivable danger in the sternest degree, and the result of my observation was that I had never known a young man of more daring or chivalry.

The brigade upon the whole did its duty well. On the march into Missouri it was newly organized and poorly armed, and necessarily moved in the rear. On the retreat it was better organized and well armed, and I am gratified to state that it was thought worthy to continue still in the rear. I moved into the State with about 500 armed men and 1,500 unarmed, and, after the deduction of all losses, I came out with about the same number almost entirely armed.

I would do my feelings injustice did I fail to acknowledge the favorable attention which the brigade received at all times from the major-general commanding and Brigadier-General Shelby. The last was unremitting in his care of the command as he was ever distinguished for his gallantry and ability when he was present to direct and lead it.

To Major-General Fagan the brigade is indebted for kind and complimentary words spoken when it acted under his control on the evening of the fight of the 23d of October, and I take pleasure in testifying to the skill displayed by him while directing its operations on this hazardous occasion.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. D. JACKMAN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Major EDWARDS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 95.

Reports of Brig. Gen. John B. Clark, jr., C. S. Army, commanding Marmaduke's division.

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S DIVISION OF CAVALRY,
Camp on Red River, Ark., December 19, 1864.

COLONEL: I respectfully submit the following as my report of the part taken by my brigade in the late Missouri campaign:

My command, known as Marmaduke's cavalry brigade, consisting of Greene's, Burbridge's, Jeffers', Kitchen's, and Lawther's regiments,

Wood's battalion of cavalry, and Pratt's battalion of artillery, numbering in effective strength 1,200 men (equipments fair and horses in moderate condition), marched from Tulip, Ark., on the morning of the 31st of August at sunrise on the Benton road as the advance guard of the Army of Missouri. Arriving at the Arkansas River on the morning of the 6th of September, Lawther's regiment in advance, after a slight skirmish with a small detachment of the enemy's cavalry crossed the river, encamping on the opposite shore. On the morning of the 7th the line of march was resumed, the army moving in the direction of Southeast Missouri; crossed the Arkansas and Missouri line on the 20th; passed through Poplar Bluff, Mo., on the 21st; Saint Francisville on the 22d; Dallas County on the 24th; Fredericktown on the 26th, making a junction at this point with Generals Fagan's and Shelby's divisions, which had moved by routes to the west of my line of march. The entire army arrived at Ironton, Mo., on the 27th of September.

Before arriving at Pocahontas, Ark., Jeffers' regiment, of my brigade, under orders from the major-general commanding, proceeded to Southeast Missouri, arriving near Bloomfield on the 22d of September. The Federal garrison hastily evacuating that post, he attacked their rear with great vigor, killing a number, capturing 75 stand of small-arms and 6 wagons and teams loaded with army and sutler's stores, reporting to the brigade September 24, but detached again on the 25th. After a spirited charge he drove the enemy and captured the town of Old Jackson, Mo.; but the enemy having been apprised of his approach removed everything of value before his arrival. He rejoined the brigade September 26.

The army being in front of Ironton, Mo., on the 27th, Fagan's division drove the enemy from that town, forcing him to take refuge behind his fortifications at Pilot Knob. I received orders to occupy Shepherd's Mountain with my brigade, which was done without opposition. During all this time, however, volleys of musketry and the roar of artillery gave us notice that a spirited engagement was progressing on our right, the position occupied by Fagan's division. The enemy having taken refuge within a strong redoubt, and showing no disposition to skirmish with us beyond its protection, it was determined to bring the artillery to bear upon the enemy from Shepherd's Mountain and at the same time make an assault, my brigade on the left and Fagan's division on the right, Freeman's brigade, of Marmaduke's division, having been sent against the enemy in some other direction. The signal for the assault was the opening of artillery on Shepherd's Mountain. The fort lay directly in my front (as was supposed) one-half mile, but found the distance to be at least three-quarters of a mile upon examination afterward. The descent from the top of the mountain was as rugged as can be imagined, and it was impossible to move the troops down it in any order, huge bowlders, fallen timbers, deep and almost impassable ravines confronting the troops at every step, and the enemy's artillery opening with great accuracy at this moment upon our disordered ranks, I would not have been surprised to have seen all break in confusion; but with unfaltering courage they pressed forward, each one seeming eager to reach the enemy's intrenchments first. Owing to the irregular descent upon emerging into the open space around the fort the brigade was found divided, Burbridge and Jeffers on the left and Greene, Lawther, and Wood 150 yards to the right and connecting with Cabell's brigade. Thus disconnected (it being impossible to bring them together without great loss of time as well as life) the advance was continued. Greene's, Lawther's, and Wood's commands, with

Cabell's brigade, advancing to the very muzzle of the enemy's guns, found a deep ditch yawning before them impossible to cross. After some hesitation they recoiled before the terrible fire that was continually poured into their ranks, falling back from 75 to 100 yards from the fort under cover of a small natural embankment, and remained until after night-fall, when they were quietly withdrawn to an encampment one mile distant. Burbridge's and Jeffers' regiments being upon my left in the charge did not get nearer than seventy-five yards to the fort, and seeing the others repulsed took refuge in a ravine and remained until withdrawn after night. Thus ended one of the hardest fought small engagements of the war, as the list of killed and wounded will attest, the officers and men of my command behaving with a spirit that well became the reputation they had won upon many fields under the command of General Marmaduke and Colonel Greene as brigade commanders. I hope it will not be considered out of place for me to call attention to the dashing gallantry displayed by General Cabell in leading his troops to this terrible assault.

During the night the enemy blew up his fortifications and fled in the direction of the Southwest Branch Railroad. A rapid pursuit was commenced on the 28th, but we did not come upon his rear until the 29th, having continued the pursuit through the night preceding without halting. We pressed him hotly, but owing to the topography of the country it was impossible to deploy rapidly, and in consequence failed to bring him to a general engagement. Having already been in the saddle forty-eight hours, exclusive of the fatigues from the battle of Pilot Knob, my command was relieved from active pursuit in the advance by General Shelby's division, who pressed the enemy hotly until night-fall. Taking advantage of the darkness and the facilities afforded by the railroad at the station of Leasburg, the enemy protected himself behind formidable fortifications, and considering that it would occasion too great loss of life to make the assault, Generals Marmaduke and Shelby decided to withdraw on the 30th and move down the railroad some twelve miles, camping at Sullivan's Station. On the 29th Colonel Burbridge's regiment and Wood's battalion, of my brigade, under orders from General Marmaduke, were detached (Colonel Burbridge commanding) to destroy the railroad depots, &c., at Cuba, eleven miles from Leasburg in the direction of Rolla. The order being satisfactorily executed they rejoined the brigade on the 30th.

We arrived at Union, Franklin County, October 1; found a small body of the enemy, some 200 strong, posted in the town to dispute our entrance. Dismounting my command and opening my artillery I moved forward rapidly to the attack, routing the enemy, killing 32, and capturing 70 prisoners. At 12 o'clock that night Lawther's regiment, of my brigade, was sent forward in the direction of Washington as an advance. I was ordered to join him with the remainder of my command, and did so at 8 o'clock the next morning (October 2) one mile from Washington. The enemy having fled the night before, took possession of the town without opposition, destroying a bridge on the Pacific Railroad two miles below the town. On the 3d of October captured a train at Miller's Station, with a large amount of clothing and 400 Sharps rifles. Same evening captured Hermann after a slight engagement with the enemy, Greene's regiment in advance, which captured one 12-pounder iron gun. The train captured at Miller's Station was run up to Hermann, where stores, arms, &c., were distributed. On the 4th Wood's battalion, with four companies under Major Parrott, and one piece of artillery, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Wood, were sent

by order of Major-General Marmaduke with the train up the railroad to destroy the Gasconade bridge, which was accomplished without resistance, rejoining the brigade on the 5th, and on the 6th formed a junction with the main army at Linn.

From the time the pursuit commenced at Ironton to the arrival at Linn, Freeman's brigade, of Marmaduke's division, was detached as a guard to the general train, and marched under Major-General Price's orders with the main column. On the 7th of October Shelby's division (in advance) drove the enemy from the crossing of the Osage, and Fagan's division moving up to his assistance drove the enemy within the fortifications around Jefferson City. Marmaduke's division being in rear did not engage the enemy. Moved in direction of Russellville on the 8th, Fagan's division skirmishing with the enemy in rear. Moved to California on the 9th, Marmaduke's division in rear, my brigade in rear of the division, Greene's regiment skirmishing with the enemy. At California the enemy suddenly dashed in upon the flank, but opening upon him with Pratt's battalion of artillery checked his attack, and under its cover passed the brigade, leaving Lawther's regiment in rear skirmishing with the enemy. They followed, however, only a short distance from that point.

Arrived at Boonville on the 10th, that place having been captured the day before by General Shelby's command. On the 11th a picket of 100 men, commanded by Captain Hicks, of Burbridge's regiment, was attacked by a heavy force of the enemy and rapidly driven in. Marmaduke's and Fagan's divisions, moving rapidly to the front, offered battle, the enemy retiring after a slight skirmish, the principal loss being in Hicks' picket, that officer handling it with great judgment and gallantry. Left Boonville on the night of the 12th; arrived at Arrow Rock on the 14th. On the 14th received orders from the major-general commanding army to cross the Missouri River at Arrow Rock with my brigade and 500 men of Jackman's brigade, attack and capture the Federal post at Glasgow. I succeeded, after considerable difficulty, in crossing my command, but not as early as was expected. General Shelby, with two guns and one regiment, was ordered to assist in the capture from the south side of the river, the attack to begin at daylight, but owing to the delay in crossing the river I did not arrive at Glasgow at the appointed hour, Shelby's artillery opening at the appointed time, my command being some three miles distant. Pushing rapidly forward we soon came in sight of the town, finding the enemy in line of battle to receive us. Colonel Greene, commanding brigade, was ordered to make the attack on the enemy, who were directly in his front and in rear of the town; Jackman to attack the enemy on his right flank. After several shots from Pratt's artillery, which was posted on the heights south of Glasgow, the dispositions for the attack being made as indicated, both commands advanced to the attack in a spirited manner and soon drove the enemy within his works, which were constructed upon a commanding hill in the heart of the town, from which they poured a destructive fire of small-arms in our ranks; but nothing daunted, they advanced under cover of houses, fences, and other obstructions to within a short distance of his works, preferring to force his surrender by a continuous fire from sharpshooters rather than take him by assault. After a fire of small-arms and artillery for two hours Colonel Harding, commanding Federal forces, sent out a flag desiring to know what terms would be granted to him in case he surrendered. He was answered that they should be treated as prisoners of war, private property should be respected, and officers permitted to keep their

side-arms. Accepting the terms the entire Federal force was surrendered, consisting of Colonel Harding's regiment and four companies of militia, numbering between 800 and 900 men, 1,200 small-arms, about the same number of overcoats, 150 horses, 1 steam-boat, and large amounts of underclothing.

The capture was complete in every respect, and made with much less loss than could be expected when we take into consideration that the disproportion in force was not more than two to one, but the rapidity with which Colonels Greene and Jackman moved their troops to the attack, and following the enemy so closely in his retreat to his intrenchments that they had no opportunity to punish us severely. Notwithstanding, we sustained considerable loss in gallant officers and men in crossing the open fields and before we could get under cover of the houses around the fortifications, the loss in this action being — killed and — wounded.

Colonel Harding, after consulting his officers and investigating the laws, orders, &c., of the United States in regard to paroling prisoners, determined to accept a parole for himself, officers, and men that I had offered him, having stated to me previous to this that he would not accept the parole unless he felt sure that it would be regarded by his Government. All were accordingly paroled and sent to Boonville under the escort of Lieutenant Graves with his company. He delivered them at Boonville. (See complimentary letter to Lieutenant Graves from General Fisk.)

I do not hesitate in complimenting the gallantry and good behavior of officers and soldiers in this action, but call your attention especially to Colonels Greene and Jackman, commanding brigades. General Shelby gave me material assistance in the reduction of the town by a judicious use of his artillery and sharpshooters from the opposite side of the river.

After a distribution of as much of the property, ordnance, &c., captured as the troops could conveniently carry, I had the steam-boat which was captured at the wharf burnt, evacuated the town, and recrossed the river on the 17th and rejoined the main army on the 18th, not coming in contact with the enemy again until the 21st at the crossing of Little Blue River, in Jackson County. My brigade being in advance, Captain Stallard's escort (Marmaduke's advance guard), came upon the enemy's pickets one mile from the bridge on Little Blue on the Lexington and Independence road. Stallard soon drove them across the bridge, which they burned to prevent a rapid pursuit. Under instructions from General Marmaduke I sent Burbridge's regiment (Lieutenant-Colonel Preston in command) to secure the ford one mile above the bridge, and Colonel Lawther with his regiment to secure the ford one-half mile below, who soon reported the lower crossing clear, the enemy retiring toward Independence. I moved the brigade to the lower ford, but found the crossing very difficult and slow. Hearing quick firing to the front I hastened forward with Greene's regiment, leaving orders for the command to follow as rapidly as possible, and found that Colonel Lawther had indiscreetly attacked a very heavy force of the enemy posted behind some stone fencing which ran at right angles to the road and afforded complete protection against small-arms. He was driven back and in his turn assailed by the enemy, when I arrived with Greene's regiment. General Marmaduke having ordered Captain Stallard to support Lawther's regiment, Colonel Greene formed his regiment in line of battle, flanked by two pieces of artillery from Pratt's battalion, which was soon hotly engaging the enemy, Lawther having fallen to his rear

in confusion. Owing to the difficulties of crossing at the ford Greene's regiment fought at great odds unsupported, but they contested every inch of ground with stubbornness until the arrival of Wood's battalion, when the enemy gave way, but receiving re-enforcements drove us again to our original position. We were almost out of ammunition and the day seemed lost, but Kitchen's regiment, including Davies' battalion (Davies' absence from his regiment not accounted for), came up at this moment in as gallant style as veteran infantry and turned the tide of success, the enemy breaking and falling back toward his first position. A part of Shelby's division (Gordon's regiment, I believe) joined on the left of Kitchen and pushed hotly after the enemy, who, taking position behind the rock fencing spoken of, stubbornly contested the advance of Marmaduke's and Shelby's divisions for at least an hour, but finally gave way, Shelby in pursuit.

In this action Major Pratt, with one section of his artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Williams, did excellent service, and at a time of great emergency manned the guns themselves. Company B, Greene's regiment (Captain Polk), behaved with distinguished gallantry, resolutely supporting the artillery with only one round of ammunition for close quarters with the enemy. Colonel Greene distinguished himself above any other officer in the engagement. Loss in this action: — killed, — wounded.

On the same evening Independence was captured, my brigade encamping two miles beyond the town on the Westport road. On the morning of the 22d, Fagan's division being hotly pressed from the rear, General Marmaduke sent me an order to form line of battle at some suitable point near my encampment, some two miles from Independence, as a support to Freeman's brigade, which was formed in my front some half a mile, Fagan's division having been pressed back, then Freeman's brigade, the enemy came within range of my artillery (Pratt's) half an hour before sundown, which immediately opened and checked his advance. Then falling back probably a mile, under directions from Major-General Marmaduke I formed my brigade in order of battle by columns of regiments as follows, Wood's battalion, Burbridge's regiment, Lawther's regiment, Kitchen's regiment, and Jeffers' regiment, to await the advance of the enemy. I was advised that the resistance must be stubborn, as there was heavy fighting in front, and the rear of the train was only a short distance in advance. The enemy having now engaged the army both in front and rear, and possibly elated at having driven the rear of the column over twelve miles of hard-fought ground, and knowing from the report of their guns in the advance that the relative position of the contending forces had slightly changed, notwithstanding the almost impenetrable darkness of the night, they rushed upon us with a reckless fierceness that I have never seen equaled, giving us warning of confidence reposed in the efficiency and number of their troops in case we were pressed to a general engagement. First Wood's battalion was driven back, then Burbridge's regiment, then Kitchen's, then Lawther's, and last Jeffers', who contended longest and last with this fierce advance. Thus passed this long and never to be forgotten night of the 22d. The dark obscurity that enveloped friend and foe alike was only relieved by the bright flash of our guns, and the deathlike stillness that reigned in the forest around us was only broken as volley answered volley from the contending forces. Our loss was heavy, but especially in the regiment of the gallant Jeffers.

The enemy being satisfied with the reception, or having spent his energies in his furious onslaught, halted the pursuit at 2 in the morning.

On the 23d Marmaduke's division, again in rear, were attacked at an early hour by the same enemy and with the same spirit as before. Greene's regiment, commanded by Captain Johnson, and Burbridge's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Preston, with Freeman's brigade, met him first, my brigade being formed in his rear 500 yards. He contended manfully for the crossing of the Big Blue, but was forced back after having repulsed the enemy several times. Falling back through my brigade the enemy came upon me in the full enthusiasm of pursuit, and though my brigade contended nobly with the foe for two hours and strewed the open field in our front with his dead, our ammunition exhausted, we were forced to leave the field again to the enemy, our dead in his hands. The booming of Fagan's and Shelby's guns were heard all this time in the direction of Westport heavily engaging the enemy. At this time I was directed by General Marmaduke to pass the train and protect its left flank from a threatened attack from cavalry. I found them advancing upon the flank, but halted without coming to an engagement. Continued to retreat that night until 1 o'clock. Resumed the march southward on the 23d; crossed into Linn County, Kans., on the 24th. Resumed the march southward on the 25th, Marmaduke's division being in the rear.

Before I had gone a mile from the encampment (on the Marais des Cygnes) of the night before, I received an order from General Marmaduke to form my brigade in line of battle, as the enemy had again appeared in our rear. I remained in that position until 10 o'clock; no engagement with small-arms; retiring from that position in line of battle. The enemy, 800 or 900 yards distant in line of battle, followed us. We were now well out on a prairie that seemed almost boundless. At the distance of a mile General Marmaduke directed me to halt, which we did. The enemy coming on with a steady advance approached very near in largely superior force. We retired at a trot, the enemy in close pursuit. We continued this way, each holding about the same position, across a flat prairie some four miles, when we came suddenly upon the trains halted, the delay occasioned by a deep ravine, the enemy not more than 500 yards in our rear. There was no time to make any but the most rapid dispositions for battle. To attempt to dismount and send the horses to the rear was inevitable destruction, as the enemy in the confusion would have been upon us. There was no alternative but to abandon the train or to fight on horseback. In the hurried consultation between Generals Fagan and Marmaduke I understood this to be the view taken of the emergency. It was determined not to dismount, which met with my approbation. Skirmishing had already begun, the artillery in action, when the Federal force (I should judge 6,000 or 7,000) made a furious charge on the right and left flank. Both gave way in hopeless confusion. Every effort was made by appeals and threats to retrieve the rout, but it swept in an irresistible mass ungovernable. The Federal force and that mingled together until you scarcely knew who was friend or foe. Gallant spirits, however, were seen here and there in hand-to-hand conflict with the foe, in sad contrast to those who had ignominiously thrown away their arms. General Marmaduke in the vain effort to rally his troops was captured by the enemy. Every gallant spirit in my brigade remembers with affection the gallant and prudent commander of an hundred battles, and mourn that his valuable services are lost to his country in the hour of her

emergency. The gallant Jeffers with Major Waddell, of my staff, and many other officers, were captured. I succeeded in forming I suppose 500 men on General Marmaduke's escort (which deserves great credit for being less demoralized than any troops I saw in the rout), all of which retired in some order to the main column. The retreat was continued with occasional skirmishing until we reached Newtonia, which was the last sight we had of the enemy. As I have heard that odium was cast upon the major-general commanding for adopting the line of retreat through the Indian Nation, I desire to say that that route was earnestly advocated by me in preference to any other.

Having assumed command of Marmaduke's division on the day and after the battle of Mine Creek, and Colonel Freeman, whose brigade composed a part of the division, never having made a report of the part taken by his command in the campaign, I am unable to call attention to it in a specific manner. It is in my knowledge, however, that he did good fighting at Independence and Big Blue. His brigade was detached from the division at Maysville, Ark., by orders from the major-general commanding, and sent to Northeast Arkansas. The retreat through the Indian Nation was attended with many hardships, particularly to the new recruits; but as the army was without meat rations only two days we encountered nothing like starvation.

My brigade staff were prompt and gallant in the execution of orders throughout the campaign, calling especial attention to Captain Kerr, ordnance officer of my brigade, who behaved with distinguished gallantry on many occasions.

The officers of my brigade with very few exceptions behaved well in every action and deserve high encomiums for gallantry, among whom Colonel Greene stands pre-eminent.

It is impossible to report the loss of the division on account of the absence of Colonel Freeman's report. The loss in my brigade can only be reported in the aggregate. Attention is called to list accompanying this and also Colonel Greene's report.

General Marmaduke's staff, who have been reporting to me since his capture, are surpassed by none in the army for activity, promptness, and gallantry. I regret especially my inability to do General Marmaduke justice in this report, as many things of moment were done by the division of which I was not cognizant. His command have the highest regard for him as a general and are anxious for his return, as only troops are who believe in their leader.

It gives me great pleasure to call attention to the gallant conduct of Private Adams, Company B, Third [Missouri] Regiment, of my brigade, during the battle of Mine Creek.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. B. CLARK, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

Lieut. Col. L. A. MACLEAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Price's Army.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS FISK'S DIVISION, U. S. FORCES,
Booneville, Mo., October 17, 1864.

OFFICER OF C. S. ARMY COMMANDING ESCORT
OF FEDERAL PRISONERS FROM GLASGOW, MO.:

SIR: This will introduce Capt. H. S. Glaze, of my staff, who will relieve your escort and provide the weary and sick with conveyance to

my camp. He is authorized to receipt for them should you so deem best. Highly grateful for your considerate and kindly treatment of my soldiers,

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully,

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

List of killed and wounded in Marmaduke's brigade.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.	
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
Greene's regiment	3	16	9	101
Burbridge's regiment	1	12	10	41
Kitchen's regiment	1	9	2	25
Jeffers' regiment	2	20	7	28
Lawther's regiment	1	17	6	42
Stallard's escort			1	7
Total	8	74	35	244

I can furnish no report from Freeman's brigade. There is no report from Wood's battalion or Pratt's artillery battalion, both being absent from the command.

Very respectfully,

JNO. B. CLARK, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S DIVISION,
On Red River, December 19, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to instructions I respectfully submit the following report of prisoners captured at Glasgow, Mo., on the 15th of October, 1864. I regret that the roll of officers and men captured were lost on the prairie in Kansas when it was deemed advisable to destroy a portion of the train; consequently my report will not be as accurate as I could wish. The officers and men captured amounted in the aggregate to something near 900 men, consisting of Colonel Harding's regiment U. S. Volunteers and four companies of Missouri militia. I informed Colonel Harding that I would parole officers and men if he desired it. He hesitated, saying that he was not certain that the parole would be recognized by his Government, and that he could not accept a parole unless he was certain in that particular. He stated, however, if I would grant him a parole until 3 o'clock that evening he would see his officers, investigate the laws of the United States and orders from military sources, and inform me at that time (3 o'clock) whether he would accept the parole. He reported accordingly, and stated that he and his officers were satisfied that the parole would be regarded, and accepted the parole. They were all accordingly paroled (they being furnished with a written parole) and sent with an escort at Colonel Harding's request to Boonville, where they were delivered.

General Fisk wrote a letter (find a copy with report) acknowledging obligations for kind treatment, &c., and ordering one of his staff officers to receipt for prisoners.

JNO. B. CLARK, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. L. A. MACLEAN, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Price's Army.*

No. 96.

Report of Col. Colton Greene, Third Missouri Cavalry, commanding Marmaduke's brigade.

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S BRIGADE,
Camp on Red River, Ark., December 18, 1864.

MAJOR: In writing a report of the part taken in the late expedition into Missouri by the commands under me, I have embraced the actions of my own regiment and Marmaduke's brigade because I was in command of the latter in several engagements and during many marches, and that in the most memorable action I commanded both on the same day.

In pursuance of orders received from Brigadier-General Clark, commanding Marmaduke's brigade, I turned over my train at Princeton, excepting one wagon, and took the field on the 31st of August, marching in a northwesterly direction through a broken, mountainous, and thinly populated country, and struck the Arkansas River at Dardanelle on the 6th of September. On the same day I crossed the river and moved north and northeast through a country equally barren and broken without interruption; crossed White River fifteen miles above Batesville, and arrived at Pocahontas, on Black River, at midnight of the 18th of September. We swam this stream during the night, proceeded up its left bank fifteen miles and recrossed it, making our bivouac in Ripley County, Mo., on the 20th, just two miles from the Arkansas line. On the same night I was ordered forward to Poplar Bluff, which town I occupied on the following morning, the enemy in small force evacuating the day before, and in pursuance of orders made a reconnaissance of the country and of the enemy's position at Bloomfield. From Poplar Bluff my march was northward to Patton, thence west to Fredericktown, during which my flankers dispersed several parties of militia, killing and wounding 4, capturing 11, and sustaining no loss. Here two companies of my regiment were detached on recruiting service.

The morning of the 27th of September found me in Ironton, where preparation was made to assault the enemy's position at Pilot Knob, contiguous to this village. His work, consisting of an octagonal bastion mounting four 32-pounder guns and two field batteries, lay in the cleared bed of a valley, around which Shepherd's Mountain and Pilot Knob rose up like a wall. I dismounted at the foot of Shepherd's Mountain, advanced to its crest with skirmishers deployed, and was by order of the brigadier-general put in line in reserve, ordered to preserve distance of seventy-five yards, and to support the first line at discretion.

Our artillery opening from both mountains, I moved at 1 p. m. down the northern slope of the mountain exposed to a heavy artillery fire. My regiment kept admirably aligned and preserved the prescribed interval; reached the plain, whereupon, observing confusion in the advance line, I charged past it, rallying it on my flank, and gained a short distance of the fort, only to find our whole force broken and retiring. I now took cover about seventy-five yards from the work and rallied

parts of several regiments, reformed the line, supported the troops on my left (which were hotly pressed), and held this position until ordered off at dark by Brigadier-General Clark. The steadiness of my regiment in this action was conspicuous. Four times it was halted and dressed on the colors, and sustained its whole loss without discharging a gun. Lieut. Archibald M. Jones and Private Shepherd, Company F, deserve especial mention for gallantry, bearing the wounded body of the brave Major Bennett, of the Tenth, from the field. About one-half of the effective total of my regiment was alone engaged in the assault—145 men. My loss was 3 officers and 26 men killed and wounded, among the latter class of which was that fine soldier and gallant officer, Maj. James Surridge, who was dangerously wounded in the leg, and whose horse was killed under him while leading the left wing of his regiment.

During the night the enemy evacuated his works and was pursued on the following day and overtaken on the 29th by the advance, to whose support I was ordered up, but after several slight skirmishes he made good his retreat to Leasburg, on the southwest branch of the Pacific Railroad, where he intrenched himself. On the morning of the 30th my regiment was moved forward to make a demonstration on the enemy's position to cover the withdrawal of the main column. At 10.30 a. m. I drove in his outposts, made feints on his right and left, attracted the fire of his artillery, engaged him for two hours, and retired with a loss of 4 wounded, and joined the column at Sullivan's Station at midnight.

From this point I marched with the division through Saint Clair to Union, the county seat of Franklin County, where the enemy made a feeble resistance and evacuated the place. Continuing the march we occupied Washington, on the Missouri River, and on the 3d of October appeared before Hermann. My regiment was in advance. Three miles north of town Lieutenant Graves, Company A, charged the enemy's outpost and pursued it to the suburbs, where I dismounted and took position on the extreme right of our line. At sunset I was ordered by General Marmaduke to advance, the enemy opening with artillery. I moved in line to the center of the town at a double-quick, where I formed in column, advancing on the battery, which I at once charged, the enemy—an insignificant force with one 6-pounder—fleeing and abandoning his gun.

From the 4th to the 9th instant I marched with the column. On the 9th the enemy was reported pursuing, and I was sent to the rear two miles north of Russellville, in Moniteau County, and went into position with eight companies dismounted, Company B mounted in reserve, and Company A mounted to protect my left, which was exposed. Here I engaged the enemy warmly for forty minutes, when he attempted to pass to my rear by my left, and was gallantly charged by Lieutenant Graves and repulsed. I now fell back under cover of Company B, which was very creditably handled by Lieutenant McGuire, and took position on the left of the brigade, formed at Russellville. The brigade retired. Soon after the enemy appeared and opened with artillery and again attempted to turn my left but was defeated with loss. Falling back slowly I went into position two miles farther on and awaited the cautious approach of the enemy, whom my skirmishers constantly engaged. We were shelled at long range without harm, when throwing my regiment into column of attack and making feint to charge, the enemy retired, and taking advantage of his retrograde I continued the retreat, thus forming and maneuvering for the double

purpose of delaying his march and avoiding a charge in an open country by his superior cavalry. Pending these skirmishes he moved another column on our left, which struck our right flank (Marmaduke's division) at California, through which town I passed under fire of his artillery and formed one mile beyond in support of Hynson's battery, and finally moved into camp on the Boonville road.

During this day I was assisted by Capt. George W. Kerr, of General Clark's staff, and it gives me pleasure to mention the fine conduct of this excellent officer.

On the 10th of October I made my bivouac with the main army at Boonville, and was the next day at 12 o'clock ordered out on the Tipton road to meet the enemy, then skirmishing near town. I was placed in command of Marmaduke's brigade on the field, and formed it dismounted with a strong line of skirmishers. The enemy in the meantime drove in our mounted skirmishers, whom I rallied on the right to cover that flank and advanced my dismounted skirmishers firing. I now ordered a general advance and drove the enemy a mile, who in his retreat left his dead and wounded in our hands, and I occupied the ground lately held by him. I lay in line during the night and the day following; returned to our bivouac at sunset; marched all night and the next day, and reached the vicinity of Arrow Rock on the evening of October 13.

On the morning of the 14th I was ordered by Brigadier-General Clark to march with his brigade to Arrow Rock and cross the Missouri River. The crossing was effected at midnight, and a short time after sunrise we were upon the important town of Glasgow, fortified and garrisoned by 1,000 men. The brigade I commanded was in advance, and by the general's orders I left the main road and moved to the right, facing the town, while he moved Jackman's brigade by the main road. The enemy was visible half a mile in front of his works. I moved at a trot; dismounted rapidly; ordered Lawther's regiment to the right, above the town, to engage the enemy's cavalry and cut off his escape and communications; put Harris' battery, commanded by Lieutenant Williams, in position and opened fire.

My line was formed, with Greene's regiment on the right, commanded by Captain Johnson; Jeffers' on the left; Burbridge's on the right of the center; Kitchen's on the left of the center; and Davies' battalion in the center. A heavy line of skirmishers was thrown out. I was now ordered forward. The enemy fought stubbornly and took advantage of houses, fences, and every obstacle until driven at the charge into his works. We had gained a position near his intrenchments which seemed inaccessible, and while restoring our line he got possession of a building from which our right was much annoyed until Captain Polk, Company B, Third Regiment, gallantly dislodged him, but with heavy loss. The fire now slackened, when the enemy to avert the final assault surrendered. Though the loss in this engagement was especially heavy on Greene's regiment, its gallant conduct was equaled by the action of the whole brigade. Captain Crabtree, Lieutenants Yandell, Jump, and Puryear, of the Third, were severely wounded; Lieuts. Arch. M. Jones and McGuire (both of the Third), and Lieutenant Scott, of the Fourth, fell bravely, as as they had so often fought before, and deserve to be remembered as models of every soldierly virtue.

To Major Waddell and Capt. George W. Kerr, of General Clark's staff, I was greatly indebted for valuable aid on the field, and I cannot commend too highly the splendid gallantry and usefulness of the lat-

ter. Nor should I forget to name the uniform good conduct and bravery of Privates Shepherd, Company F, Third Regiment, and Ellis, Company F, of the Fourth, who acted as couriers during the action.

On the 16th of October we recrossed the river and joined the main army on the 17th, when General Clark again took command of his brigade. On the 18th, 19th, and 20th, I marched at the head of my regiment with the main column, moving westward toward Independence. On the morning of the 21st, the brigade being in advance, cannonading announced that the enemy whom General Shelby had driven from Lexington had made a stand, and about midday my regiment was turned from the main road to the right for the purpose of crossing Little Blue River below the bridge which was destroyed. I moved rapidly across the river, and had marched a short distance when it was ascertained that Lawther's regiment was routed. I dismounted about 150 men, formed across the road, and immediately engaged the enemy, who was right upon us. Williams' three-gun battery was unlimbered fifty yards behind my regiment. The enemy, who was in greatly superior force, vigorously pressed his advantage. He was twice repulsed, when he began to flank me both on the right and left. The moment was critical; no supports arrived. Directing my wings to fire by the right and left oblique I took charge of the battery, firing Nos. 1 and 3 on my flanks, and then ordered rapid volleys of blank cartridges to be fired (the position of my men prevented the use of missiles). It produced the desired effect. The enemy fell back and was charged by us. He now rallied and opened with artillery; again advanced and was again repulsed. The fight was thus continued between unequal numbers, my ammunition was exhausted, the fortitude of my men severely tried, when Kitchen's regiment reached the field. I put it into line and directed it to fire by volley. The enemy fled to return no more.

Great credit is due to Capt. Charles K. Polk, of Company B, who held the enemy in check on my left. Sergeant Woolsey, Company G, was conspicuous for gallantry during the action, and Private Shepherd, Company F, deserves especial notice for rallying his company and leading a charge against the battery.

I now marched to Independence and was ordered to picket the approaches to that town from the south and west. On the morning of the 22d I was notified by General Marmaduke to hold my position until relieved. An hour or two after artillery and musketry firing indicated that the enemy was driving our forces and was near town, and I accordingly retired my outposts one mile, only in time to observe that the head of Rosecrans' army had penetrated the town and had driven our rear through it in confusion, and was pursuing on the Westport road. My position was extremely hazardous. I awaited orders until the enemy had almost surrounded me, when I moved on the Little Santa Fé road parallel to and within range of his column, who, deceived by our blue coats, held his fire. Three miles on that road I met Captain West, assistant quartermaster, who with an escort had been sent to relieve me, but was cut off. The enemy was still ahead of me on my right, which made it impracticable to join the main army, and hence I moved on for ten miles at a trot. Learning by the way that a body of Blunt's cavalry was then one hour in my front, turned across the country to the right and intercepted the train at Big Blue. Here the injuries and wound received at Blue Mills the day before became so painful that I was compelled to turn my regiment over to Capt. B. S. Johnson, whose report of an action on the 23d of October is herewith annexed, and to whom much commendation is due for uniform skill and courage while in command.

On the night of the 24th I again assumed command, and before daylight of the 25th was moved out and took position. Our camp was on the Marais des Cygnes River, in Linn County, Kans. I was ordered to form two miles south of that stream with Burbridge's regiment. The remainder of Marmaduke's brigade was still in the rear, and engaged the enemy for a few minutes, retired beyond me, and reformed. I occupied my position about half an hour, when Burbridge's regiment, with the brigade, was withdrawn, and I was ordered by General Marmaduke to move in rear. The country was a continuous prairie, and the enemy soon appeared in sight. After marching about a mile I was ordered to quicken my gait, then to trot, and finally to join the main body at a gallop. We had now marched some five or six miles, followed by the enemy, who seemed to take his gait from ours, but never came in gunshot range. On reaching the main body I found it formed some 300 yards north of Mine Creek—a deep, lightly wooded stream with abrupt caving banks—and was ordered into position in rear and to the right of Williams' battery. The main line was less than eighty yards from me, and another line covered half of my regiment, and was not exceeding twenty yards from it. I was notified that I was in reserve. We were mounted. I am thus explicit in describing the position of my regiment, in order to explain or extenuate the disaster which soon after overtook it, and which without explanation would leave a stigma upon its bright and dearly bought reputation. After a slight skirmish the enemy was seen to deploy from behind the left of his line in heavy column of attack, completely turning our right. Suddenly the first and second lines gave way, and rushing in great disorder ran over and broke the eight right companies of my regiment. The same wild panic seemed to seize everything. I wheeled my remaining company (B) to the right and opened on the flank of the enemy's column until two of Williams' guns were borne to the rear, when after every exertion, seeing the impossibility of staying this panic-stricken mob, I ordered Captain Polk (Company B) to withdraw as best he could.

Two hours later and near the Osage River I was placed in command of the brigade, and collected about 400 armed men, not including Wood's battalion, which did not report until the day following. Over two-thirds of the arms were lost in the rout. With this force, under General Clark's directions, I moved across the Osage and went into position five miles beyond on the Fort Scott road, the brigade composing a part of the right wing. The enemy had been in the meantime engaged by Shelby's division, which retired to the rear. We advanced upon the enemy as soon as he appeared in sight, and a sharp fusilade was kept up with slight loss to either side. The enemy seemed unwilling to press his advantage further, and after checking his pursuit we withdrew at dark.

Among the many officers who bore themselves with marked gallantry on this memorable and disastrous day I cannot forbear to record the names of Lieutenant-Colonel Ward and Captain Power, of the Eighth; Lieutenant-Colonel Preston, of the Fourth; Lieutenant Snapp, of the Third, and Captains Barry and Burr, of the Tenth, whose conduct came under my immediate notice.

I was again indebted to Capt. George W. Kerr for valuable assistance in times of danger, and in bearing tribute to his gallantry it reminds me to add the names of Privates Simpson and Adams, Company B, Third Regiment, who performed all the duties of staff officers with courage and skill.

Continuing our march uninterruptedly the brigade crossed the Marmiton at 10 o'clock of the night of the 25th, where I halted one hour to burn the train as directed, and moved on in a southerly direction and encamped near Carthage, Mo., on the 26th. The distance traveled in this march was ninety-two miles. The brigade was not again engaged with the enemy, but endured the severest privations and sufferings during the march through Indian Territory to Boggy Depot, which place we reached on the 18th of November. For twenty-five days our animals were without forage. For twenty-three days we subsisted on beef without salt, frequently issued in insufficient quantities, and for three days were without food at all. The loss in animals was very heavy, and many wagons were abandoned in consequence.

For a report of the killed and wounded of the brigade in the actions in which I commanded it and of my own regiment during the expedition, I beg respectfully to refer you to the accompanying paper, marked A.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. H. EWING, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Inclosure.]

A.

Report of the killed and wounded of Marmaduke's brigade in Missouri while commanded by Col. Colton Greene, and of Greene's regiment, during the expedition.

MARMADUKE'S BRIGADE.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
Boonville, October 11, 1864:			
Greene's regiment		3	
Jeffers' regiment	2	1	
Kitchen's regiment		1	
Lawther's regiment	1		1
Glasgow, October 15, 1864:			
Greene's regiment	4	26	
Jeffers' regiment		4	
Burbridge's regiment	2	9	
Lawther's regiment	1	2	
Kitchen's regiment		2	
Osage River, October 25, 1864:			
Kitchen's regiment	2		
Jeffers' regiment		1	
Total	12	49	1

GREENE'S REGIMENT.

	Killed.		Wounded.	
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
Pilot Knob, September 27		3	3	23
Leasburg, September 30				4
Russellville, October 9				4
Boonville, October 11				3
Glasgow, October 15	2	2	5	21
Blue Mills [Little Blue], October 21		4	1	26
Big Blue, October 23	1	3		6
Mine Creek, October 25		1		10
Other skirmishes		3		4
Total	3	16	9	101

Total killed and wounded, 129.

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

No. 97.

Report of Capt. Benjamin S. Johnson, Third Missouri Cavalry.

CAMP ON RED RIVER, ARK.,
December 21, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by this regiment in the action of the 23d of October at Big Blue River:

I assumed command of the regiment the evening of the 22d of October, Colonel Greene being disabled from injuries received at the battle of Little Blue on the 21st of October. I was ordered to form the regiment at sunrise on the bank of Big Blue River as infantry. After being in position about half an hour the enemy appeared in sight and opened fire on us from small-arms, compelling us, owing to the formation of the creek, to leave our position, they being enabled to fire on us from the right flank and rear. We fell back one mile and a half in good order to a skirt of timber at the edge of a small prairie, and were ordered to form to support Pratt's artillery. The enemy appeared in sight and opened heavily on us. We replied, compelling them to fall back to the shelter of some houses on the prairie. They again advanced at a charge to take our battery. We opened fire on them while Company G, under the command of First Sergeant Woolsey, dashed gallantly forward and hauled the guns off by hand, the balance of the regiment keeping a steady fire upon the enemy. We remained in our position until every gun was discharged and every cartridge expended. Ordered by General Clark to fall back to our horses, which we did in good order.

Our loss was 3 killed and 7 wounded.

The whole regiment acted very gallantly. Particular praise is due to Sergeant Woolsey, of Company G, for his gallant conduct.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. S. JOHNSON,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

Maj. F. S. ROBERTSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Marmaduke's Brigade.

No. 98.

Report of Col. John Q. Burbridge, Fourth Missouri Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH MISSOURI CAVALRY,
December 8, 1864.

MAJOR: I herewith submit report of the part my regiment took in the late campaign in Missouri. Such a report must necessarily be very imperfect and in some instances incorrect, since all records from which information could be drawn were lost:

On the 29th of August the regiment, in conjunction with the brigade, left Princeton, crossing Arkansas River on the 10th proximo, traveling from thence in a northeasterly direction, and entering Missouri in its southeastern portion near Pocahontas. No opposition was offered to our march until our arrival at Pilot Knob, a place strong by nature and rendered almost impregnable by art. An assault being determined upon my regiment occupied the extreme left, charging down a steep, bald mountain, exposed to a galling and destructive fire of artillery and musketry. The regiment gained a position about a hundred yards beyond the foot of the mountain in a bed of a creek, the banks of

which protected the men from the enemy's fire. This position was held until night-fall enabled me to draw off the regiment. My loss in killed and wounded was 7 officers and 28 men.

It having been ascertained the next morning that the enemy had taken advantage of the night to effect his escape, the regiment with the rest followed in pursuit until near Leasburg, on Pacific road, when I was ordered to take my regiment and Wood's battalion and make a detour to the left and cut the railroad above Leasburg. I obeyed these instructions, capturing a station called Cuba, tearing up the track, and burning the depot, and from thence rejoining the command in the vicinity of Leasburg. From thence the regiment, in conjunction with the brigade, marched down the railroad, assisting in the capture of Saint Clair, Union, Washington, and Hermann, the two last-named towns being upon Missouri River. Our march from thence was up the river, past Jefferson City, to Boonville.

After a halt of two days here the march was again resumed, my [regiment] crossing the river with the brigade at Arrow Rock, and marching on Glasgow. This point was intrenched and occupied by about 800 Federals, protecting an immense quantity of stores deposited there for safety. The attack commenced about 8 o'clock, my regiment occupying a position in center of brigade, and lasted till 1 p. m. My loss in killed and wounded was 1 officer and 8 men.

The understanding relative to the distribution of captured property up to this time was that all should be equally divided among the regiments engaged in the capture. Yet on this occasion, though a large quantity of horses and arms were taken, my regiment obtained none of either, though at the time I had over 100 unarmed men in my command. My regiment was the last to leave town on crossing the river, and after the other regiments had vacated their camps I picked up more than sixty guns left by them on the ground. We rejoined the main army the same day on the Lexington road. The next morning our march was resumed for Lexington, passing near the town, in pursuit of Federal forces under Blunt, arriving at Independence, Mo., on the 23d [21st] of October. The next evening the regiment was placed in line to meet the Federals from the rear, but was driven back, without loss, however.

During the day following, the enemy pressing in heavy force from three sides at once, the regiment was employed in different positions to protect the train. The enemy's pursuit was vigorous and determined, overtaking us on the Kansas prairies near a stream called Marais des Cygnes.

On the morning of the 27th [25th] dispositions were made for a fight to check their pursuit, my regiment occupying the extreme right. My men were armed with long infantry guns, which they were unable to load on horseback, and consequently were unable to oppose successfully the Federal charge, but broke and fled in the wildest confusion. My loss, as near as I have been able to ascertain, was about 40 killed and wounded, among the latter Captain Hicks and Lieutenant Armstrong, Companies C and I.

I should also mention prior to the above that Lieutenant McCaleb, Company I, was sent on detail from Boonville to Laclede County, capturing and paroling a lieutenant and 28 men.

My regiment engaged in no more actions of the campaign.

The march from thence to Red River was over a desolate country, where no food for men or forage for horses could be obtained. Its previous defeat and severe starvation now completed the demoraliza-

tion of my regiment. I have the honor to report now, however, that, in some degree recovered from the fatigues and hardships of the campaign, its numbers are gradually swelling and its condition rapidly being brought to some degree of discipline.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN Q. BURBRIDGE,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Maj. F. S. ROBERTSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 99.

Report of Lieut. Col. J. F. Davies, Davies' Missouri Battalion, commanding Seventh Missouri Cavalry and Davies' Battalion.

CAMP ON RED RIVER, *December 12, 1864.*

COLONEL: The following report is as accurate as it is possible for me to make it, having lost all our regimental papers. You will herewith find a report of the raid in Missouri, as follows:

On the 27th of August the Seventh Regiment of Missouri Cavalry with the remainder of Clark's brigade left Mount Elba, on the Saline River, and marched twenty miles; camped at Hagen's Mills. 28th, marched twenty miles and camped at Stony Point. 29th, marched sixteen miles and camped two miles south of Princeton. Here we turned all our wagons over but two. 30th, left Camp Princeton; marched ten miles and camped near Tulip. 31st, marched twenty-five miles.

September 1, marched seventeen miles. 2d, sixteen miles. 3d, fifteen miles. 4th, crossed the Forest Mountain and marched eighteen miles. 5th, this day we were rear guard; our road was very bad; did not reach camp until 12 o'clock in the night, having marched twenty miles. 6th, left camp at daylight; this day we crossed Arkansas River at Dardanelle and encamped on the north side of the river, having marched fourteen miles. 7th, marched seven miles and encamped on Illinois Bayou. 8th, passed through Dover and encamped, having marched twenty-three miles. 9th, marched twenty miles. 10th, marched twenty-five miles. 11th, marched twelve miles. 12th, this day we crossed White River Mountain; no water; marched thirty-three miles. 13th, remained in camp. 14th, marched eighteen miles. 15th, marched to Strawberry River; twenty-one miles. 16th, remained in camp. 17th, marched twenty-two miles and camped at Spring River. 18th, left camp on Spring River and marched to Pocahontas, thirteen miles, and commenced crossing Black River at 10 o'clock at night. By daylight we had crossed everything and marched three miles and camped. 19th, marched fifteen miles. 20th, marched twenty-five miles and crossed the Missouri line. 21st, marched twenty-five miles and camped at Poplar Bluff. 22d, marched eighteen miles. 23d, marched twenty-two miles and camped at Bollinger's Mills, on Castor. 24th, started on a scout with Colonel Jeffers' regiment (Colonel Jeffers commanding), and marched to Old Jackson, where we took the enemy by surprise. We reached Old Jackson just before sundown, having marched forty miles. We killed 2 and captured 13 prisoners and 25 horses. 25th, marched twenty-five miles and encamped at Patton. 26th, marched thirty miles, passing through Fredericktown. 27th, marched twelve miles to Pilot Knob. Our regiment was guard for train while the fight was going on at that place. 27th [28th], Federals evacuated Pilot Knob at 4 a. m. 28th and 29th, in pursuit of the enemy; marched thirty miles. 30th, marched thirty miles and camped at Sullivan's Station, on the southwest branch of the Pacific Railroad.

October 1, marched twenty-five miles to Union, where we had a skirmish with the enemy. 2d, marched twenty miles and camped at Washington. 3d, marched twenty-five miles and camped at Hermann. This town we captured after a short fight. 4th, marched twenty-five miles. 5th, marched twenty-five miles on a scout. 6th, marched twenty miles and camped near Linn. 7th, marched twenty miles and camped within sight of the enemy's camp-fires at Jefferson City. Considerable fighting going on during this day. 8th, marched fifteen miles and camped at Russellville. 9th, this day we had a fight at New California. Pratt's [Hynson's] battery and this regiment were all that were engaged. 10th, marched twenty miles and camped at Boonville. 11th, at 12 m. this day the enemy was reported near Boonville. We were ordered out; the enemy had gained the position we were to occupy. We were ordered to dismount. We did so, and soon drove the enemy, and lay in line of battle during the remainder of the evening. 12th, we lay in line of battle last night and all this day until 4 o'clock, when we were ordered back to camp, and at 8 o'clock we were again on the road. We marched all night and only traveled twelve miles; camped, fed, and cooked breakfast. 13th, were sent on picket; relieved in the evening. This day we marched sixteen miles. 14th, left camp at daylight and marched to Arrow Rock, sixteen miles. At this place we crossed the Missouri River (Clark's brigade and Jackman's only). It took us until midnight to cross. We then moved in direction of Glasgow, distant sixteen miles. At daylight we could hear heavy cannonading, which afterward proved to be General Shelby from the south side of the river. At sunrise we attacked the enemy at the suburbs of the town and soon drove them into their fortifications. Finding it impossible to escape us he surrendered at 1 p. m. Here we captured between 700 and 900 prisoners and about 2,000 stand of small-arms. 16th, recrossed the Missouri, which took us all night. 17th, left the river at 1 o'clock and marched twenty miles in direction of Waverly and camped at midnight. 18th, marched eighteen miles and camped at Waverly. 19th, passed through Dover and camped near Lexington, having marched twenty miles. This night we were ordered to the front and lay in line of battle until midnight. Marched in the direction of Independence fifteen miles on the 20th. 21st, marched to Little Blue, where the enemy tried to stay our progress, but after a very severe fight we drove the enemy and followed him to Independence, where we camped, having marched twenty-four miles; seven miles of this distance we marched on foot. In this fight Davies' battalion, attached to this regiment, behaved very gallantly; saved one piece of Pratt's [Hynson's] battery, and driving the enemy from his position. 22d, this day a force under General Rosecrans attacked us in our rear. Here we fought until 10 p. m., and held the enemy in check, then fell back about ten miles. 23d, at sunrise we were in line of battle, as the enemy was fighting our pickets. At this place (Big Blue) we had a short and bloody fight and were compelled to fall back. Here Colonel Kitchen was wounded. At 2 p. m. the enemy attempted to capture our train by a flank movement on our left, but were driven back after a short skirmish. We fell back twenty miles and camped. 24th, marched thirty-five miles. 25th, this day the enemy attacked us about 9 o'clock, but Pratt's [Hynson's] battery did such good execution that the enemy were compelled to fall back. About 10 a. m. he again attacked us in force. After a short engagement the command on our right, being flanked by the enemy, gave way; then the left gave way also, leaving the center to receive the enemy's charge, and being overpowered were compelled to seek safety

in flight. The scattered forces were shortly rallied, and at 4 p. m. we again met the enemy. This time we drove the enemy, and in turn were driven by him, but held our ground and fell back at sundown and marched until 1 a. m. Here we burned our trains, having marched thirty miles. We marched again at 2 a. m. 26th, this day we marched sixty-two miles and camped near Carthage. The enemy was in our rear all day. 27th, marched twenty miles. 28th, this day Shelby fought the enemy back. This day we marched twenty-seven miles. 29th, crossed the corner of Arkansas and camped in Cherokee Nation. Marched this day thirty miles. 30th, marched fifteen miles. 31st, sixteen miles.

November 1, marched nineteen miles and camped at Cane Hill; got forage for our horses—the first in five days. Here we remained until the 4th, when we marched twelve miles and camped in the nation. 5th, twenty miles. 6th, eighteen miles. 7th, crossed Arkansas River and camped two miles south, having marched six miles. 8th, marched twelve miles. 9th, fifteen miles. 10th, fifteen miles. 11th, seventeen miles. 12th, fifteen miles. 13th, eighteen miles and camped near Perryville. Here we received half a pound of flour to the man—the first that we received in twenty-two days. 14th, remained in camp. 15th, marched sixteen miles. 16th, eight miles. 17th, marched twenty-six miles and camped at Boggy Depot. 18th, remained in camp. 19th, marched fifteen miles. 20th, fourteen miles. 21st, twenty-three miles; crossed Red River and camped in Texas. Here we drew forage for our horses—the first we received since we left Cane Hill, being seventeen days. Here we drew full rations of flour. 22d, marched seventeen miles. 23d, remained in camp. 24th, marched twelve miles. 25th, twenty-one miles. 26th, seventeen miles. 27th, fifteen miles. 28th, camped at Clarksville, having marched twelve miles. 29th and 30th, remained in Clarksville.

December 1, marched sixteen miles in direction of Laynesport. 2d, marched fourteen miles and camped near mouth of Mill Creek. 3d, crossed Red River at Laynesport and camped on north side of Red River, having marched seventeen miles. 4th, marched down Red River ten miles and camped near Cressville, at which camp we have remained to the present time.

Respectfully submitted.

J. F. DAVIES,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Seventh Missouri Cavalry.

[Inclosure.]

Special report of the killed, wounded, and missing of the Seventh Regiment of Missouri Cavalry while on the raid in Missouri.

Where.	When.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured and missing.		Deserted during raid.	
		Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
New California	Oct. 9, 1864						6		
Boonville	Oct. 11, 1864				1				
Glasgow	Oct. 15, 1864				2				
Franklin County						1	1		
Blue Mills [Little Blue]	Oct. 21, 1864		2	1	12				
Independence	Oct. 22, 1864				3		4		
Big Blue	[Oct. 23, 1864]		5		8				
Stampede on the prairie	Oct. 25, 1864	1	5	1	11	4	53	13	252
Total		1	12	2	37	5	64	13	252

No. 100.

Report of Col. Robert R. Lawther, Tenth Missouri Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH MISSOURI CAVALRY,
December 6, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the action taken by the Tenth Missouri Cavalry while on the recent expedition to the State of Missouri:

Marched at sunrise on the morning of the 30th of August from Princeton, Ark., moving in the direction of Dardanelle. Crossed the Arkansas River at that point on the 6th of September, continuing our march in the direction of Ironton, Mo., arriving within six miles of that point on the evening of the 26th of September. There learned that a heavy Federal force, under command of General Ewing, was stationed at that point.

September 27 moved promptly at daylight, General Cabell in front. He charged the enemy, driving them back in the direction of Pilot Knob, they occupying a strong fort at that point. After considerable skirmishing the fort was charged by Generals Marmaduke and Fagan. General Clark's brigade, of which my regiment formed a part, was on the extreme left. I lost in the charge and the fighting which succeeded it in killed and wounded 4 officers and 26 men, of whom 4 were killed. Among the wounded was the brave and gallant Major Bennett, who lost a leg in the charge. His loss was felt not only by his regiment but by the whole division. During the night the Federals evacuated the fort, marching in the direction of Rolla, Mo. Next day Clark's brigade followed closely in pursuit. The Tenth Missouri Regiment, being in advance, came up to the rear guard of the Federals on the morning of the 29th of September; immediately charged them, driving them back in confusion, capturing 25 men and killing 2. I lost in the engagement 1 man killed and 2 wounded. On the morning of the 1st of October our division marched in the direction of Union, Washington County, Mo., at which point some 400 Federals were stationed. When arriving within one mile of the town General Clark dismounted all of his brigade except Colonel Jeffers' regiment and my own. Colonel Jeffers he ordered on the left, and I was ordered to proceed rapidly around on their right, cutting off their retreat in the direction of Saint Louis. On arriving on the Saint Louis road I observed the Federals falling back. We instantly charged through the town and succeeded in capturing 65 and killing 10. I had 1 man slightly wounded. On the evening of the 3d captured Hermann with our brigade. Sustained no loss in our regiment. On the morning of the 5th marched in the direction of Linn. I was detached by General Marmaduke and ordered to burn the Gasconade bridge and the bridge across Bailey's Creek. On arriving at the bridge across the Gasconade I found the railroad bridge had already been destroyed by Colonel Wood. I destroyed the railroad bridge across Bailey's Creek and rejoined the brigade at Linn. On the 9th marched through California. The Federals attacked our brigade, which was in rear, shelling us as we passed through the town. I had 2 men wounded by a shell bursting in our ranks. On the evening of the 11th engaged the enemy at Boonville, driving them back. Had 2 men wounded.

General Clark crossed the Missouri River with his brigade on the 14th, and on the morning of the 15th marched on Glasgow, attacking

the Federals at that point at about 10 o'clock. I was ordered to keep my regiment mounted and move rapidly to the north of the town and prevent the enemy from escaping in that direction. After some three hours' fighting the Federal cavalry surrendered to me, numbering 157. I lost during the engagement 1 man killed and 4 wounded. Recrossed the river on the night of the 16th, marching on in the direction of Independence, engaging a Federal force under command of General Blunt at the crossing of the Little Blue; drove him back through Independence. My loss was 1 man killed, 1 officer and 12 men wounded, and 6 men captured. 22d, in command of rear guard, Federals pursuing closely. Had 2 men wounded at the crossing of the Big Blue. Fell back and reformed on the west side of Blue. Fought them stubbornly at that point. On the 23d had 2 men wounded, and the enemy succeeded in capturing Lieutenant-Colonel Young and Captain Davidson, of my regiment, both brave, gallant officers. On the morning of the 25th marched in the direction of Fort Scott, Kans. The Federals attacked our rear guard at sunrise, and a general engagement was the result, which resulted unfavorable to us. I lost in the engagement 4 officers wounded and 7 captured by the enemy, 9 men killed, 17 wounded, and 58 captured. Engaged the enemy again on the evening of the 28th at Newtonia. Had 1 man wounded. This was the last engagement had with the enemy.

My loss on the expedition was as follows: Nine officers wounded and 9 captured; 47 men wounded, 16 killed, 64 captured.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. R. LAWTHER,
Colonel, &c.

Maj. F. S. ROBERTSON,
Assistant Inspector-General, Marmaduke's Brigade.

No. 101.

Casualties in Freeman's brigade in the several battles in Missouri since September 20, 1864.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Captured.	Missing.	Total.	Original strength.	Strength present September 20.	Present strength.
Freeman's regiment, organized January 26, 1864	13	20	36	112	181	800	550	250
Fristoe's regiment, organized July 5, 1864	11	40	20	45	116	830	530	175
Ford's battalion, organized August 27, 1864	3	5	5	6	19	442	276	150

Maj. B. D. Turner, brigade staff, wounded.

Respectfully submitted.

T. R. FREEMAN,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

No. 102.

Report of Col. Charles H. Tyler, C. S. Army, commanding unarmed brigade.

HEADQUARTERS TYLER'S BRIGADE,
December 15, 1864.

MAJOR: In obedience to the order of the brigadier-[general] commanding the division to report the part taken by my brigade in the various actions from Independence to Newtonia, I have the honor to report that owing to its unarmed condition the brigade was not assigned to duty with either the advance or rear guard of the army, but had been marching on the flanks of the wagon train for its protection.

On the 25th of October the army marched from the Marais des Cygnes. General Shelby's division was in advance, General Fagan's in the center, and General Marmaduke commanded the rear. As usual, my brigade guarded the flanks of the wagon train.

About 10 a. m., while marching with the regiments separated, my attention was called to an action then in progress in the rear. Large numbers of troops were observed pursuing a retreating force and firing upon them with revolvers. Rightly conjecturing that our rear guard had been overpowered, I immediately concentrated my command and made as imposing a line of battle as possible. Soon our retreating troops confirmed my conjectures in respect to the fighting, and at the solicitation of some of the intelligent officers who were retreating I continued in this position until the rear of the train had safely passed. I then assumed the duties of rear guard and continued as such until meeting the commanding general. He hurried me to the front to guard a park of wagons in the advance. Upon my arrival at the park I found the train again in motion and took my position on the right flank, as originally assigned. An order soon came from the commanding general to support a battery of artillery then in position on our right front, and being the senior officer present, to take the command. I formed line of battle as ordered, but before the enemy appeared received another order from the commanding general to march in advance of the train. After advancing three or four miles in front of the train the general commanding, through a staff officer, directed me to form a line of battle faced to the rear. Upon coming up he informed me that our rear guard was being driven and needed support, and directed me to support it morally by an ostentatious display and physically by the armed men under my orders. Accordingly when our retreating rear guard appeared in sight I told my unarmed recruits that the commanding general looked to them alone for the safety of the train; that they must charge the enemy and check him. This they did and very gallantly, considering that they were unarmed recruits and had the example of so many armed fugitive veterans to demoralize them.

The casualties of the charge were:

	Killed.	Wounded.
Perkins' regiment	5	13
Searcy's regiment	3	4
Coffee's regiment	3	7
Total	11	24

After the charge the recruits speedily rallied, and I again reported in line of battle to the commanding general. General Fagan then assumed command, retained me still as a support to the rear. The troops under my command behaved well even if they had been armed veterans. As unarmed recruits they distinguished themselves. During their whole march there is no known instance of lawlessness. In all the demoralization they have behaved well. No insubordinate spirit has been developed. They have reported in greater numbers for duty comparatively than any other brigade.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. TYLER,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. H. EWING,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Marmaduke's Division.

No. 103.

Record of the Price Court of Inquiry.

PROCEEDINGS OF A COURT OF INQUIRY CONVENED AT SHREVEPORT, LA., BY VIRTUE OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL ORDERS:

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
No. 58. } *Shreveport, La., March 8, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

XVI. At the instance of Maj. Gen. Sterling Price a Court of Inquiry is hereby appointed to meet at Washington, Ark., at 12 m. on Monday, the 3d day of April, 1865, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to investigate the facts and circumstances connected with the recent Missouri expedition under his command. The Court will give its opinion upon the facts which may be developed.

Detail for the Court: Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Col. P. N. Luckett, Third Texas Infantry; Maj. O. M. Watkins, assistant adjutant-general, judge-advocate.

Should it become necessary during the investigation for the Court to change the place of meeting it will do so, notifying department headquarters thereof.

By command of General E. Kirby Smith:

H. P. PRATT,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
No. 81. } *Shreveport, La., April 5, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

VI. Paragraph XVI, Special Orders, No. 58, current series, Department Headquarters, is so amended as to make Shreveport, La., the first place of meeting of the Court of Inquiry instituted at the instance of Major-General Price.

By command of General E. Kirby Smith:

P. B. LEEDS,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIRST DAY.

SHREVEPORT, LA.,
April 21, 1865—10 a. m.

The Court met pursuant to the foregoing orders:

Present, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Col. P. N. Luckett, Third Texas Infantry. Maj. Oscar M. Watkins, assistant adjutant-general, judge-advocate.

Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, Provisional Army, C. S., appeared before the Court.

The judge-advocate read the orders convening the Court and asked Major-General Price if he had any objection to any member named in the detail. He replied, none.

The Court was then duly sworn in the presence of Major-General Price by the judge-advocate, and the judge-advocate was duly sworn by the president of the Court.

Major-General Price asked of the Court to be allowed the assistance of Col. Richard H. Musser, Ninth Missouri Infantry, as his military friend. The Court was then cleared for deliberation and the request of Major-General Price granted.

The hour of 12 m. having arrived adjourned to meet to-morrow at 10 a. m.

SECOND DAY.

SATURDAY, *April 22, 1865—10 a. m.*

At a Court of Inquiry then held at Shreveport, La., pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Col. P. N. Luckett, Third Texas Infantry; Maj. O. M. Watkins, assistant adjutant-general, judge-advocate.

Maj. Gen. S. Price appeared before the Court.

The proceedings of yesterday read.

The judge-advocate then introduced as evidence an official copy of the letter of instructions from General E. Kirby Smith, commanding Trans-Mississippi Department, to Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, directing him to make the campaign in Missouri. Said official copy is dated August 4, 1864, and is hereunto attached and marked Exhibit A.

Capt. T. J. MACKEY, corps of engineers, was then sworn, no other witnesses being present.

Examined by the JUDGE-ADVOCATE:

Question. Were you in the campaign of 1864 in Missouri under command of Major-General Price?

Answer. I was.

Question. State in what capacity you served, when you joined the command, when the march began, the route it pursued, and the places where the enemy were encountered and with what results, from the time you joined the command until the end of the campaign.

Answer. I was chief engineer on the staff of Major-General Price. Joined the command at Princeton, Ark., on the 29th August, 1864. The march began from Princeton August 30, 1864, moving west of it to Dardanelle, on the Arkansas River. Reached Dardanelle on the 6th day of September, 1864. I was then directed by Major-Gen-

eral Price to prepare pontoons for the passage of the river, provided no practicable ford could be found. Inquiring for the usual fords from citizens, I learned that they were impracticable. A practicable ford was found by me a half mile southeast of Dardanelle—a ford three or three feet and a half in depth, the river 290 or 300 yards in width. Ammunition was removed from caissons; ordnance stores necessarily raised in the wagons. We crossed without accident and marched fourteen miles to the vicinity of Dover, in Arkansas. From thence Major-General Fagan moved east to Springfield, Ark., with his division. At Dover a council of war was held. I was not present. There the object of the campaign was then developed. The roads from Dardanelle to Batesville, Ark., and from Dardanelle to Springfield, Mo., fork at Dover. The main body of the army, with headquarters, moved by way of Clinton, Ark., crossing the White River at O'Neal's Ferry, about eighteen miles above Batesville. At Batesville, or near there, Major-General Price and staff made a junction with Major-General Fagan's force. At O'Neal's Crossing Major-General Marmaduke, with his division, moved by an upper route direct to Powhatan. The road was rough and a difficult one, and was adopted because of the forage and subsistence that it furnished. Headquarters with General Fagan's division moved from Batesville, fourteen miles, to Powhatan, Ark., which point it reached on the 15th September, 1864, where it was joined by Generals Marmaduke and Shelby. Moved from Powhatan to Pocahontas on the 16th, a distance of eighteen miles. At Pocahontas we halted two days for the purpose of reorganizing, many recruits being then in camp, and to distribute ordnance to the different divisions. At that point two or more brigades were organized and added to Major-General Fagan's division, under Colonels Dobbin and McCray, and one brigade, under Colonel Freeman, added to Major-General Marmaduke's division, and a brigade, under Colonel Jackman, to General Shelby's division. These four brigades were chiefly of recruits from Arkansas and Missouri. At this point, by direction of General Price, I prepared four or five maps indicating the routes by which the different divisions should move on entering Missouri, it having been determined by General Price to move by three routes to Fredericktown, Mo., 140 miles from Pocahontas. General Price directed me to lay the routes down clearly, so that the subordinate commanders could always communicate with him readily and know where he was. From Pocahontas General Price, with Major-General Fagan's division, moved direct to Fredericktown by Greenville, the middle route. Major-General Marmaduke moved by Poplar Bluff, Dallas, and Bloomfield, by the longest route to the same point. Brigadier-General Shelby moved upon the left. This route leads through Patterson. He encountered the enemy in the vicinity of Doniphan and defeated him without loss to himself, capturing a few prisoners and the telegraph office with its instruments. He again engaged the enemy at Patterson, defeated him, capturing a few prisoners without loss to himself. Prior to this engagement the enemy had burned the town of Doniphan. Doniphan is in Missouri, twenty miles from Pocahontas. General Shelby's engagement at Doniphan was on the 19th, the day after leaving Pocahontas.

On the 22d General Shelby engaged the enemy at Patterson. The three divisions made their junction at Fredericktown, Mo., on the 24th day of September, 1864. At that point General Shelby had an engagement with the enemy, defeating him with little loss. A very few prisoners taken on the 23d of September, the day before the junction.

On the morning of the 26th General Shelby, by Major-General Price's order, moved from Fredericktown and in the direction of Saint Louis and the Iron Mountain Railroad. He moved in a northwesterly direction about forty-five miles to cut the road at Mineral Point. General Shelby's order was to burn bridges and depots. He destroyed the two bridges at this point. I learned this officially in the discharge of my duties as an engineer.

On the morning of the 26th September Major-General Price, with Major-Generals Marmaduke's and Fagan's divisions, moved west on the road leading from Fredericktown to Pilot Knob, Mo., to the Saint Francis River, where the army halted at a point nine miles distant from Pilot Knob. Major-General Fagan moved forward the same day with his division to Arcadia, two miles distant from Pilot Knob, leaving his train at the Saint Francis. I started to move with him, was ordered back by General Price for the purpose of repairing the bridge, 400 feet in length, across the Saint Francis. I had assigned an officer of engineer troops to that duty. General Price desired me to attend to it myself, as it was the only practicable crossing in his rear. Heard heavy firing in the direction of Arcadia the same day—Major-General Fagan driving in the enemy's outposts.

On the morning of the 27th General Price moved to the front about eight miles with General Marmaduke's division. Found Major-General Fagan in possession of Arcadia and Ironton. These are small towns about three-quarters of a mile east. We found the enemy in position in the vicinity of Pilot Knob.

On the 27th Generals Fagan's and Marmaduke's divisions assaulted Pilot Knob and were repulsed. On the night of the 27th the enemy evacuated their work, blow-

ing up their magazine. We followed early on the morning of the 28th, General Price with Major-General Fagan's division reaching Potosi, thirty-two miles north of Pilot Knob, on the 29th of September. Major-General Marmaduke moved on the left northwest on the 28th, following the enemy in the direction of Cuba, a point on the railroad between Saint Louis and Springfield, Mo. Brigadier-General Shelby had already moved from Potosi on the 28th by General Price's order in the direction of Pilot Knob. On reaching Caledonia, twelve or thirteen miles distant from Pilot Knob, he moved west to cut the enemy's line of retreat upon Cuba. Headquarters with Major-General Fagan's division moved by Richwoods to Saint Clair, thirty-five miles northwest of Potosi, where they were joined by the divisions of Generals Marmaduke and Shelby. At Richwoods Brigadier-General Cabell left the main command on the 30th and marched to Franklin, thirty miles from Saint Clair, at the junction of the Pacific and Southwest Railroad.

On the 1st October General Price, with Major-Generals Fagan's and Marmaduke's divisions, marched north to the vicinity of Union, where Brigadier-General Cabell rejoined us on the 2d. At that point Major-General Marmaduke moved northwest to cut the Pacific Railroad, to destroy the bridge at the mouth of the Gasconade, a point on the railroad between Saint Louis and Jefferson City. Major-General Price continued to move west on the Jefferson City road to the vicinity of Mount Sterling, about fifty miles from Union. At Mount Sterling Major-General Marmaduke joined him on the 5th of October.

On the 6th [7th] the advance engaged the enemy four or five miles from Jefferson City and about thirty-one miles from Mount Sterling, driving him into the city.

On the 7th [8th] retired from Jefferson City, by way of Russellville, to California. Camped at Russellville, seventeen miles west of Jefferson City.

On the 9th moved north on the road to Boonville. Our rear was attacked at California, a point on the railroad between Jefferson City and Boonville. The attack was repulsed.

On the 10th we marched sixteen miles to Boonville. Brigadier-General Shelby in advance, who had an engagement at Boonville, resulting in the capture of between 200 and 300 prisoners, with their arms. Major-General Price, with Major-Generals Marmaduke's and Fagan's divisions, reached Boonville on the 10th, where the command remained two days.

The enemy making demonstrations on our force at Boonville from the direction of Tipton on the 11th, they were repulsed and pursued for eighteen miles.

During the night of the 12th the command moved from Boonville on the road to Lexington to Chouteau Springs, twelve miles from Boonville. The next day, the 13th, Major-General Marmaduke's division, under the command of Brigadier-General Clark, was detached and moved in the direction of Glasgow, a town on the north bank of the Missouri River, crossing that stream at Arrow Rock. General Price, with Major-General Fagan's division and Brigadier-General Shelby's division, proceeded on the 14th to Jonesborough, about twenty-eight [miles] from Boonville. From that point Brigadier-General Shelby moved with a part of his division and a battery in the direction of Glasgow, to a point on the south bank of the Missouri River, opposite Glasgow.

On the 15th General Price, with Major-General Fagan's division, moved to Keiser's, on the Salt Fork of the La Mine River, seventeen miles from Jonesborough and thirty from Glasgow.

On the 14th, from Jonesborough, Brigadier-General Thompson, with a brigade of Brigadier-General Shelby's division, moved south to Sedalia on the Pacific Railroad. On the night of the 17th and on the 18th all detachments rejoined Major-General Price, who had remained on the La Mine with General Fagan's division.

On the 18th the command marched twenty-two miles to Waverly. Our advance, under Brigadier-General Shelby, engaged and defeated the enemy at that point.

On the 19th the army marched twenty-six miles, engaging the enemy in force in the vicinity of Lexington, and defeated him.

On the 20th we moved twenty-two miles west in the direction of Independence in pursuit of the enemy, who had engaged us on the day before.

On the 21st we engaged the enemy in force on the Little Blue, eight miles east of Independence, defeating him and inflicting on him heavy loss. On that night we entered Independence, having marched twenty-six miles during the day. The command moved west twelve miles on the 22d, skirmishing with the enemy on the Big Blue, eight miles west of Independence, the enemy contesting our passage of the stream.

On the 23d engaged the enemy in force in the vicinity of Westport and defeated him. From this point we moved south twenty-four miles to the Middle Fork of Grand River, in the vicinity of which we had a skirmish with the cavalry of the enemy.

On the 24th we moved thirty-three miles to Blooming Grove, Kans., on the Marais des Cygnes.

On the 25th Major-Generals Fagan's and Marmaduke's divisions were attacked eight or nine miles from Blooming Grove, near Mine Creek, in the rear of the train, and routed by the enemy. On the afternoon of the 25th we defeated the enemy that had routed Major-Generals Fagan and Marmaduke after the enemy had been re-enforced by 2,500 cavalry from Fort Scott. This occurred between the Osage and Marmiton Rivers, and eight or nine miles from the previous fight of that day, the army marching about twenty-eight miles on that day and camped at Redfield Post-Office, on the Marmiton.

On the night of the 25th we destroyed about one-third of our train and a portion of our ordnance stores.

On the 26th the entire force, with the train, marched to Carthage, fifty-eight or sixty miles.

On the 27th marched twenty-two miles to Shoal Creek.

On the 28th marched to Newtonia, seventeen miles, encamping three miles south of Newtonia. Near this place we engaged the enemy in force and routed him. From Newtonia, on the 29th, we marched twenty-six miles to the vicinity of Pineville.

On the 30th from thence to Maysville, Ark., on the line of the Cherokee Country, a distance of twelve miles.

On the 31st we reached Illinois River, in the Cherokee Nation, twenty-six miles from the last encampment.

On the 1st of November we arrived at Boonsborough, or Cane Hill, in Arkansas. From this point Major-General Fagan was sent with his division on the following day to attack the enemy at Fayetteville, Ark., eighteen or twenty miles east of Cane Hill, where the main army remained until the 4th, when, being rejoined by Major-General Fagan, we marched fourteen miles on that day and camped in the Indian Territory.

On the 5th eighteen miles and on the 6th twenty miles, to the Arkansas River, which was crossed at Pheasant Bluffs on the 7th; marched four miles.

On the 8th Major-General Fagan, with his division, moved southeast by way of Ultima Thule to Washington. Brigadier-General Shelby had on the day before moved southwest to the North Fork of the Canadian River. General Price, with General Marmaduke's division, marched ten miles on the 8th.

On the 9th nine miles.

On the 10th twelve miles.

On the 11th fourteen miles.

On the 12th two miles, to Gaines' Creek, where there was pasturage and subsistence.

On the 13th sixteen miles, to Perryville, in the Choctaw Nation, where we remained until the morning of the 15th, when we marched seventeen miles.

On the 16th seven miles.

On the 17th fourteen miles to the vicinity of Little Boggy, where Colonel Tyler left the main body with his brigade of recruits, moving southeast in the direction of Doaksville.

On the 18th the main army moved ten miles, to Boggy Depot.

On the 19th nine or ten miles, to Leflore.

On the 20th nine miles, to Little Blue.

On the 21st fourteen miles, to Island Bayou.

On the 22d sixteen miles, crossing Red River at Kemp's Ferry into Texas. General Marmaduke's division there took the river route to Clarksville, Tex., eighty-five miles distant, where it joined the main body, which had marched through Bonham. This junction occurred on the 28th or 29th. We then moved thirty-six miles to Laynesport, Ark., where the expedition rested, the main army having marched 1,438 miles exclusive of the movements of detachments.

The hour of 2.30 p. m. having arrived the Court adjourned to meet on Monday next, the 24th instant.

THIRD DAY.

MONDAY, *April 24, 1865—9 a. m.*

At a Court of Inquiry then held at Shreveport, La., pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Col. P. N. Luckett, Third Texas Infantry; Maj. O. M. Watkins, assistant adjutant-general and judge-advocate.

Maj. Gen. S. Price appeared before the Court.

The proceedings of the second day read.

Examination of Capt. T. J. MACKEY, corps of engineers, continued by JUDGE-ADVOCATE.

Question. State the character of the road from Camden to Dardanelle.

Answer. From Camden to Princeton, for fifteen or sixteen miles crosses through a bad flat; the other portion of the road to Princeton, about the same distance, tolerably good, but at that time heavy rains having fallen all the roads were bad. From Princeton to Tulip, nine miles, very good road. From Tulip, the march of the next day, twenty-five miles on the Benton road, the road was good, with the exception of the last five miles, which led over a rocky and broken country. The march of the next day (the 1st of September), of eighteen miles, the road followed a rocky ridge, rough, but practicable for heavy trains. The march of the next day (2d), crossing the Goose Pond Mountain, the ascent being easy, but the road was rough. The march of the 3d, of fifteen miles, led over a mountainous country. On the 4th the country passed (fifteen miles) was rough, but the roads practicable. The 5th we marched sixteen miles, the character of the road being but little changed. On the 6th fourteen miles were traversed, the road being about the same to Dardanelle.

Question. How was the weather when the march from Camden to Dardanelle was made?

Answer. We had two rainy days between Princeton and Dardanelle.

Question. Was there, within your knowledge, any delay in the march between these points not occasioned by the character of the roads or weather?

Answer. There was, the march being regulated by the supply of forage, which had to be collected by detachments on our flanks and front. There was a delay of some hours on the 4th September, until Major-General Fagan, who had moved in the direction of Benton and who was in our rear, could come up. I know of no other, unless the marches were shortened, because of the condition of the draught horses, which was bad, but not worse than I have observed in all of the trains of the department for the last three years.

Question. Was there any delay in crossing the river at Dardanelle not caused by the necessity of raising the ordnance stores to prevent their damage, the character of the ford being considered?

Answer. I know of none.

Question. State the general character of the roads pursued from Dardanelle to Pocahontas.

Answer. The country was broken and rocky, the roads practicable for heavily loaded wagons, with easy fords, with gravel and rocky bottoms.

Question. How was the weather during the march between these points?

Answer. Generally good, but some days extremely hot.

Question. Do you know of any delay in reaching Pocahontas not occasioned by the character of the roads, the conditions of the draught animals, or the state of the weather?

Answer. I know of none.

Question. Give the general character of the roads from Pocahontas to Fredericktown and the state of the weather during the march between those points, and state if there was any delay in the march.

Answer. The country rolling; roads tolerably good; the streams all easily crossed; the weather good; I know of no delay.

Question. State whether or not there was any halt at Fredericktown. If you say there was, state its length and how the army was engaged during the time.

Answer. We halted about two days. The army was encamped. A considerable amount of property, consisting of boots, shoes, clothing, &c., captured and pur-

chased, was being distributed and recruits being received and organized, one or two companies being formed. Major-General Marmaduke was marching. He, having a longer route to pursue, did not overtake us till the day we left Fredericktown. Six or seven forges were engaged during the halt in shoeing horses and mules and repairing the transportation.

The Judge-Advocate here handed the witness a diagram of Pilot Knob and its approaches, which is hereunto attached and marked Exhibit B,* and asked:

Question. Is that an accurate diagram of the country it purports to represent?

Answer. It is. It was drawn from a sketch made by me on the spot.

Question. You have stated that on the 26th September Major-General Fagan drove in the enemy's outposts. State where that outpost was, and the character of the enemy's works.

Answer. The outpost was Fort Curtis and vicinity, a decimated earth-work, commanding the road from Arcadia to Fredericktown, having a command of about fifty feet above that road.

Question. State in what direction the garrison of Fort Curtis retired.

Answer. North to Pilot Knob, distant a mile and three-quarters.

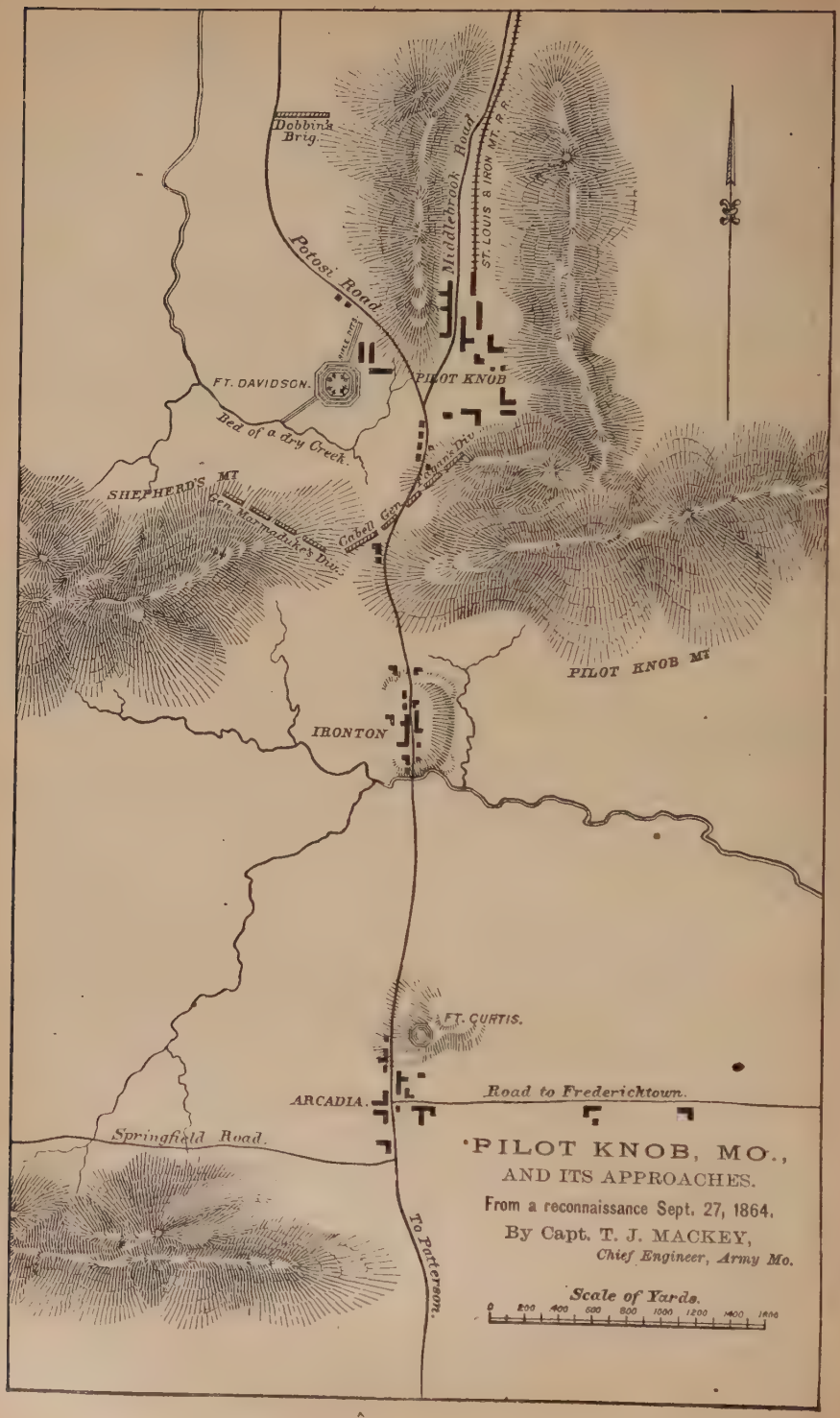
Question. What time on the 27th September were the enemy again encountered? Who commanded? State whether or not any reconnaissance of the enemy's position and strength was made, and if so, by whom made and with what result.

Answer. We arrived in the vicinity of Pilot Knob about 10 a. m. I informed General Price, who commanded in person, that I would make a reconnaissance, and with a guide proceeded to the crest of Shepherd's Mountain to a point about 1,500 yards distant from the work on Pilot Knob. The work was then firing southeast at our sharpshooters, who were showing themselves on Pilot Knob Mountain. I remained in that position but a minute or two, having been driven down by the fire of sharpshooters of the enemy. I observed that the work was situated in an open plateau, the ground between the work and the mountain being free from obstructions, and the road from Pilot Knob to Potosi running almost due north from the work; the armament of the work consisting apparently of eight heavy guns. There appeared to be but a slight ditch around it. The work being enveloped in smoke, I could not see very distinctly. I returned from the mountain and informed General Price of the location of the work; that the ditch was slight, the work appearing to have been embanked from the interior. I stated to General Price that the work was commanded by Shepherd's Mountain, the key to the position, in which opinion he concurred with me, he having consulted a map of the situation made previously by the engineers of General Hardee. I did not then, nor do not now regard the ditch of that work as being a serious obstacle to a successful assault. The work was an irregular octagonal earth-work, called Fort Davidson, the faces being from thirty to thirty-five yards each with a bomb-proof magazine, the garrison apparently being about 1,000 men. It was largely over-garrisoned. There was no bomb or splinter proof shelters for troops. The guns were in barbette. I then suggested the following plan of attack of the position, which was to place six or eight field pieces on the crest of Shepherd's Mountain by hand, stating that the guns could be placed in position in about two hours on a point 1,200 or 1,500 yards from the work and about 300 feet above it; that proper support should be assigned for those pieces; that while that was being done the work should be invested by the remaining troops of the two divisions of Generals Marmaduke and Fagan, with the remaining four pieces of artillery; that I thought the route north in the direction of Potosi would be the natural line of retreat of the enemy if driven from the work. General Price concurred with me.

Question. State what dispositions were made by Major-General Price; what orders were given by him within your hearing for the conduct of the battle, and then state how the battle was fought and with what result.

Answer. General Price ordered an assault to be made; I do not know by whom the dispositions were made. The troops were formed in the following order: Marma-

* See p. 708.


Dobbin's Brig.
Potosi Road
Middlebrook Road
St. Louis & Iron Mt. R. R.
FT. DAVIDSON.
PILOT KNOB
Bed of a dry Creek
SHEPHERD'S MT
Gen. Marmaduke's Div.
Cabell Gen.
Trans Div.
PILOT KNOB MT
IRONTON
FT. CURTIS.
ARCADIA.
Road to Fredericktown.
Springfield Road.
To Patterson.
PILOT KNOB, MO.,
AND ITS APPROACHES.
From a reconnaissance Sept. 27, 1864,
By Capt. T. J. MACKEY,
Chief Engineer, Army Mo.
Scale of Yards.
0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 1400 1600

duke's division on the north slope of Shepherd's Mountain, about 800 or 900 yards distant from the work; Fagan's division on Marmaduke's right, its left resting on Shepherd's Mountain on a prolongation of Marmaduke's line, its right resting on the west slope of Pilot Knob Mountain, both divisions masked by the timber on the mountain and about equidistant from the work, Fagan a little nearer to it. Dobbin's brigade of about 1,500 or 1,600 men was in position about a mile due north of the work on the road to Potosi, He was in position several hours before the line of attack was formed. Two field pieces were placed in position on Shepherd's Mountain about 1,250 yards from the work. The other guns, eight field pieces, including two or three rifles, were in reserve with a regiment dismounted at Ironton, three-fourths of a mile southeast of Pilot Knob. General Price observed to the staff officers of Generals Marmaduke and Fagan that there must be a perfect concert of action in the assault; that the movements of both divisions must be simultaneous; that they must attack together, and enjoined that Generals Marmaduke and Fagan should communicate freely with him and with each other to secure perfect harmony of action. General Price had previously, and three or four hours before the assault mas made, dispatched couriers to be mounted on the best horses to Brigadier-General Shelby, then believed to be at Potosi to march immediately for Pilot Knob with the double object of cutting the enemy's line of retreat, and operating against any force that might assist the garrison. These dispositions were complete between 2 and 3 p. m., when a few rounds, five or six in number, were fired from the guns in battery on Shepherd's Mountain. Fagan's division debouched upon the plateau at a point about 500 yards distant from the work, where his whole line came under fire. Marmaduke debouched upon the plateau about 600 yards from the work. Several (say five) minutes later Fagan's division, after advancing about 100 yards on the plateau, broke in the most disgraceful manner, and before it had experienced any material loss, with the exception of Cabell's brigade, which was on the extreme left, which moved steadily across the plateau at double-quick and delivering its fire under the fire of five or six heavy guns, two six-inch Cochorn mortars, and two or three 2-pounder steel skirmish guns which swept the gorge of the work upon which Cabell's right was moving; the enemy attempting to raise the drawbridge, but the ropes breaking the gorge was left open. The enemy's chief attention was directed to Cabell's brigade, which having reached a point in the vicinity of the ditch, and meeting with very heavy loss, fell back in very great disorder up the slope of Pilot Knob Mountain. Marmaduke, while Cabell was moving as described, moved from the southwest and west faces of the work, his command delivering its fire as it advanced. After having passed about 200 yards on the plateau in which the work is situated under fire of several of the guns of the work with but little effect on its line, the entire division halted and laid down on the dry bed of a creek about 250 or 300 yards from the work just before Cabell's line broke. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon the fight concluded, Marmaduke's division continuing to remain in the bed of the creek sheltered from the fire, the other troops retiring in great disorder, General Price using every effort to rally the troops in person.

Question. What was the force under command of Major-General Marmaduke, and what the force under Major-General Fagan, and what were their respective losses in the assault on Fort Davidson?

Answer. Marmaduke's division I estimated at 3,000 or 3,500, Fagan's about 4,000. Fagan's loss in killed and wounded was about 350 officers and men, and Marmaduke's about 75 or 80, perhaps somewhat less. My estimate is based from observation of the field after the fight. This includes the reserves.

Question. How long have you been a soldier?

Answer. With the exception of brief intervals, for nineteen years, and was educated for the profession; and since May, of 1861, in the armies of the Confederacy.

Question. How long in your opinion would it have required the ten guns of General Price's army on the crest of Shepherd's Mountain to have forced the surrender of Fort Davidson?

Answer. Fifteen or twenty minutes, if using shells and the practice good.

Question. How long did it take to move the two guns that were in position on the crest of Shepherd's Mountain to their position?

Answer. About an hour and a half or two hours; perhaps a little longer.

Question. State if the fight was renewed on the following morning (28th September); and if not, why not?

Answer. The fight was not renewed, the enemy having evacuated the fort during the night. About 2.30 or 3 in the morning we were advised of his evacuation by the explosion of his magazine. The enemy retired by the Potosi road undisturbed.

Question. State at what time General Price's army was reformed and started in pursuit.

Answer. Very early in the morning of the 28th, some of the troops moving at daylight.

Question. State how the enemy were observed during the night, if at all, and what dispositions were then made to intercept the retreat on the following day, and with what result.

Answer. I have no personal knowledge of how they were observed by night. Until that time they were observed by Major-General Marmaduke's division and Colonel Dobbin's brigade. On the morning of the 28th our army was moved on the Potosi road in pursuit. I heard General Price ordering the pursuit to be vigorous; I know not with what result, as I was ordered to remain at Fort Davidson to destroy it and its armament.

Question. What fell into the hands of our army at Pilot Knob?

Answer. The fort, with its killed and wounded; its armament, consisting of 4 32-pounder guns, 4 24-pounder howitzers on garrison carriages, 4 6-inch Coehorn mortars, 4 steel 2-pounder skirmish guns, together with many hundred rounds of fixed ammunition for these guns; a large amount of ammunition for small-arms, and about eight or ten days' rations for 1,000 men; some 100 or 200 blankets; also the foundry, furnaces, and all the work-shops of the Pilot Knob Iron Company; the towns of Arcadia, Moulton, and Pilot Knob, and 2,000 pounds of coffee, with a large amount of supplies in those three towns.

The hour of 3 p. m. having arrived the Court adjourned to meet to-morrow, the 25th instant, at 9 a. m.

FOURTH DAY.

TUESDAY, *April 25, 1865—9 a. m.*

At a Court of Inquiry then held at Shreveport, La., pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Col. P. N. Luckett, Third Texas Infantry; Maj. O. M. Watkins, assistant adjutant-general and judge-advocate.

Maj. Gen. S. Price appeared before the Court.

The proceedings of yesterday read.

The JUDGE-ADVOCATE then continued the examination of Capt. T. J. MACKEY, corps of engineers.

Question. You have stated that in crossing the Blue River our army encountered resistance. State the character of the resistance, what obstacles to our crossing were interposed by the enemy, and how the crossing of our army was effected.

Answer. The enemy had felled the timber around the ford on the road leading to Westport for 500 yards, making a very formidable entanglement. General Price in person designated a path up the bank, which was very bold, by which a part of his cavalry (Shelby's), after having dismounted, ascended the opposite bank, driving the enemy back. He then ordered me to cut a road through the entanglement without delay, so that his artillery could pass. This road was cut by 90 or 100 axmen in about one hour and a half. A portion of our troops then advanced under the immediate direction of General Price. The enemy fell back to the vicinity of Westport. Our loss very light; theirs not known to me.

Question. When the affair on the Marais des Cygnes prairie occurred (on the 25th of October) where was General Price during the engagement?

Answer. He was with the leading division (Shelby's), five or six miles from the field, his usual position when there was no reason to apprehend an attack in rear.

Question. State whether or not, at Boonville, Mo., there was any engagement with the enemy, and, if you say there was, state the relative position of the two armies and their relative strength and the result.

Answer. We arrived at Boonville on the 10th of October. In the afternoon of the 9th of October General Shelby dashed into Boonville, capturing a garrison of about 300 men, who were behind barricades with their arms. On the 10th General Price entered Boonville at the head of the army, Fagan's division encamping on the east and southeast of the town, observing the approaches upon Boonville from those directions; Marmaduke's division south of the town, about three-fourths of a mile distant from Boonville, its left resting on the Tipton road connecting with Cabell's brigade of Fagan's right. Heavy pickets thrown out in the direction of Tipton. Shelby's division was west of the town. On the next day, the 11th, the position of the troops not being materially changed, the enemy made a demonstration from the direction of Tipton, driving in our pickets on that road. From the extent of the enemy's line observed by me I estimate their force in our immediate front at 2,500 men; some of them were dismounted. After a personal reconnaissance I reported it to Major-General Price on the field as my opinion that this was the advance of a large force. They had opened with artillery in advancing. Their advance was engaged by Cabell's brigade and checked. The enemy fell back a mile or two and General Price sent various detachments to observe his strength and position. The enemy fell back in the course of the night, and on the following morning was again in the vicinity of the town, south and west of it. General Price ordered Brigadier-General Shelby to turn the enemy's left, while Major-Generals Marmaduke's and Fagan's divisions pressed him on the right and center. Before the enemy could be turned effectually he fell back after a severe engagement with a part of Brigadier-General Shelby's division. He was pursued for eighteen or twenty miles in the direction of Tipton by Major-General Fagan's and a part of other divisions.

Question. Did you hear any general at Boonville propose to General Price to go out and crush the enemy? If so, state who the general was and the plan proposed to General Price.

Answer. I heard no general press General Price to attack the enemy, but heard General Fagan in a very undecided manner express to General Price an opinion that the enemy should be attacked. He proposed no plan.

Question. What was the character of troops opposed to General Price in Missouri and Kansas—regulars, volunteers of long service, new organizations of volunteers, or militia?

Answer. I ascertained their character from prisoners taken from various commands. Some were veteran troops from Atlanta, some from near Nashville and Vicksburg; also a large number of militia from Missouri and Kansas.

Question. You have stated that at some times short delays in the march of the army were occasioned by the necessity of removing obstructions from the road. State what measures were adopted by General Price to make those delays as short as possible. Whether or not there was an organization of a pioneer corps; and, if there was, how it was controlled and managed.

Answer. There were parts of two companies of engineer troops, numbering in the aggregate seventy-five men, under my orders. A company of pioneers was attached to Fagan's division not under my orders. These were but poorly supplied with working implements. When we were crossing at Dardanelle I was directed by General Price to fully equip them as speedily as possible. I converted three of the pontoons into wagon bodies, forming an engineer train, and a fourth pontoon converted into a wagon body to the pioneers of Fagan's division. After crossing the Missouri line all these troops were speedily fully equipped. On the day that we crossed the Arkansas River General Price ordered that the engineer troops should march in advance of the army to remove obstructions, repair bridges, &c. Fagan's company of pioneers moved always with the division, but was ordered while in Missouri by General Price to move in the front of the army under my direction, which order was obeyed for one day only. Fagan's pioneers were the most efficient in that army. The engineer troops were ragged, and many of them unshod.

Question. Was the failure to comply with this order reported to General Price? And, if so, state what measures, if any, he adopted to enforce its observance.

Answer. I reported the fact to Colonel Maclean, the assistant adjutant-general on General Price's staff, who stated that he would issue another order. I know not that it was issued.

Question. State whether or not the army was ever detained because of the engineer or pioneer troops being from the front of the army. If so, how long, and what occasioned their absence from the front?

Answer. Sometimes it was detained for an hour or two from this cause in Arkansas and Missouri; sometimes from mistakes of their own officers, mistaking a detachment to guard our flanks for the advance guard of the main army. The officer in command of engineer troops assigned by department headquarters was a confirmed cripple, and his physical incapacity to discharge the duties of his office occasioned some mismanagement of those troops. On one occasion, I think at the crossing of the Osage, where it was necessary to cut a roadway, the train was detained four or five hours by the absence of General Fagan's pioneers, whose captain reported to me as an excuse that they were eight miles behind by order of General Fagan.

Question. How long in all was the march of the army from Princeton to Fredericktown delayed because of the improper organization or management or disposition of the engineer and pioneer troops, and their want of proper implements?

Answer. About three days.

Cross-examined by Maj. Gen. S. PRICE:

Question. State if Princeton was not the place of rendezvous for the army south of the Arkansas River.

Answer. It was.

Question. State if the army under my command was not detained in organizing it, arranging transportation, and the issuing of necessary supplies until a late hour on the day I reached Tulip.

Answer. It was.

Question. State, if you know, why the route by Dardanelle was taken instead of the route east of Pine Bluff.

Answer. First, because the route east of Pine Bluff furnished but a scant subsistence. The Saline River and Bayou Batholomew crossed on that route, both unfordable, the bottoms being very bad, and the country between the Saline and Arkansas Rivers on that route had been in a great measure exhausted of its supplies by our army and that of the enemy. Second, the great probability of having our crossing of the Arkansas River disturbed by the gun-boats of the enemy on that stream. Third, in the event of crossing of that stream safely we would have had to cross the White River either at Jacksonport or Batesville. Had we moved directly upon Batesville we should have marched twenty-five or thirty miles over a long prairie, a bog in the rainy season and a desert in the dry. In addition, we would have had to cross the high, rocky spurs of mountains, almost impracticable for loaded wagons, with the enemy in position on our left flank at Little Rock and Pine Bluff, within from twenty-five to thirty miles of our line of march; also on our right flank at Devall's Bluff. Fourth. Had we marched by Jacksonport, we could have found no better ford within twenty miles of the place as reported from previous reconnaissances. This route in distance is some sixty miles the shortest. The upper route was taken because, first, it could supply forage and subsistence; second, the road practicable, better bottoms of streams, not wide; third, it masked the real object of the campaign, indicating Fort Smith as the objective point and threatening Little Rock itself, and the passage of the Arkansas safe from disturbance by gun-boats, and a greater probability of finding the river fordable above than below Little Rock.

Question. Was it not necessary to raise the quartermaster's and commissary stores in the wagons as well as the ammunition at Dardanelle?

Answer. I did not observe that, but in some cases I observed that ordnance stores were raised.

Question. What is your professional opinion of the necessity of carrying pontoons along when navigable streams are to be crossed in the line of march?

Answer. I think it eminently proper. The organization of the army is not complete without a pontoon train. This judgment is derived from the teachings of all masters of the art of war and from my knowledge of the streams to be crossed, which were liable to sudden freshets. I deem the pontoon train essential to that army, especially as its subsistence was always in advance, as in the case of the Army of Missouri.

Question. Was any delay occasioned by taking along the pontoons?

Answer. No material delay; sometimes a brief delay to the rear guard by the breaking of the coupling poles.

Question. Was the pontoon train an incumbrance?

Answer. If was not.

Question. State the nature and character of the Arkansas.

Answer. From Dardanelle to its mouth it varies in width at ordinary stages of water from 200 to 400 yards, tortuous in its course, and liable to sudden rises from heavy rains above, with but few fords, quicksand bottom. Navigation above Little Rock very precarious; fords changing materially in the course of the day.

Question. Were you acquainted with General Price's chief of staff, Colonel Maclean?

Answer. I was for many years.

Question. Are you acquainted with his general reputation as an engineer and soldier?

Answer. I am

Question. Tell the Court what was Lieutenant-Colonel Maclean's reputation as an engineer and a soldier.

Answer. He stood in the front rank of his profession as a civil engineer. His reputation was very high as a soldier.

Q. What do you know of the diligence of General Price in availing himself of Colonel Maclean's skill as an engineer, as well as your own, and his habits as to consulting maps, getting information as to the country, use of guides, and general judiciousness of his disposition for the marches?

Answer. It was the habit of General Price to avail himself of maps made by Colonel Maclean constantly, and also the published maps of the country. I was seldom consulted upon that head. His habit was to secure the service of guides and assign an officer to their special direction in cases where he did not himself know the country. The army was never without a guide to my knowledge, and it was a matter of special inquiry with me constantly. The order of march was invariably furnished at night to the generals of divisions, stating the hour at which the army would move, the position of each division en route, the position of trains, and general officers informed of the point to which we would move each day, and the position of the commanding general. Special instructions, usually verbal, were given by the commanding general for covering the flanks of his army to prevent attack, the strength of the rear and advance guard regulated by the reported movements of the enemy. There was a standing order to march at daylight, unless otherwise specially ordered.

Question. Do you know of an order to General Fagan to make a thorough reconnaissance of Ironton and vicinity on the 26th of September, 1864?

Answer. General Price issued such an order on the Saint Francis on that day.

Question. Do you know what information Major-General Fagan communicated to Major-General Price on his arrival in the vicinity of Ironton?

Answer. I heard General Fagan express his opinion of the strength of the position of Pilot Knob to General Price, and stated that he could take it with his division alone in twenty minutes by assault, and urged that the assault be made. He stated that the enemy might send a large detachment by railroad from Saint Louis and relieve the garrison and the work unless we acted promptly; that the strength of the garrison was small.

Question. What was the information in relation to the enemy having forced prominent citizens into the fortifications, and was not that information urged as a reason why the place should not be shelled?

Answer. Information was furnished General Price in my presence by citizens of Ironton and Arcadia that the enemy had forced Southern residents, old and young, including boys, into the work from the college of Arcadia. These citizens urged that he should not shell the work. They also stated to General Price that these citizens in the work would not fire upon our column assaulting the work.

Question. Do you know of the message sent by Major-General Marmaduke from Shepherd's Mountain to Major-General Price while in full view of the enemy's works at Pilot Knob? Or state what was said by Major-Generals Marmaduke or Fagan or both of them to General Price about the assault?

Answer. I do. An officer of General Marmaduke's staff reported to General Price that he was instructed by General Marmaduke to report that in his (General Marmaduke's) opinion that with two guns on Shepherd's Mountain, where he then stood, he could take the works in a few minutes. I am not positive of the precise words.

Question. Did Major-General Price order the assault on the work at the earnest solicitation of Major-Generals Fagan and Marmaduke? State what you know.

Answer. He did.

The witness here desired to correct his testimony in answer to the question previously propounded by the judge-advocate, which reads as follows:

Question. How long in all was the march of the army from Princeton to Fredericktown delayed because of the improper organization or management or disposition of the engineer and pioneer troops, and their want of proper implements?

To which the witness replies:

About one day.

FIFTH DAY.

WEDNESDAY, *April 26, 1865—9 a. m.*

At a Court of Inquiry then held at Shreveport, La., pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Col. P. N. Luckett, Third Texas Infantry; Maj. O. M. Watki[illegible] assistant adjutant-general and judge-advocate.

The Court was cleared at the instance of the judge-advocate.

The judge-advocate then asked an order of the Court to summons Governor Thomas C. Reynolds as a witness.

The Court after mature deliberation directed the judge-advocate to issue the summons desired.

Maj. Gen. Sterling Price then appeared before the Court.

The cross-examination of Capt. T. J. MACKEY continued by Major-General PRICE:

Question. Did you examine the works at Pilot Knob, more particularly Fort Davidson, after the action?

Answer. I did, very carefully.

Question. State your professional opinion of the practicability of ditch and parapet for assault. State reasons.

Answer. The ditch offered but a slight obstruction and could have been readily passed and parapet mounted. The ditch was ten feet in width, depth, six feet four inches, the command of the work eight feet. The scarp and exterior slope had been very much washed; the inclination of the exterior slope very gradual, so that it could be easily mounted. I tested the practicability of mounting it by taking a musket in my hand after we were in possession of the work, springing into the ditch and running up the exterior slope to the crest of the parapet. I repeated this with fifteen men, each with a musket in his hand, no man having any assistance from his comrade. I called the attention of Major-General Price and Brigadier-General Clark to the experiment while I was making it.

Question. If there had been prompt co-operation of the two assaulting divisions what would have been, in your professional opinion, the result?

Answer. I am satisfied that the work would have fallen upon their first assault.

Question. State your professional opinion as to under what circumstances there is the greatest amount of casualty and loss of life to an assaulting column.

Answer. When the column of attack wavers and begins retiring.

Question. Were you present after part of General Fagan's column fell back and was rallied; and did you hear General Fagan ask permission to renew the assault? State what was said by Generals Fagan, Price, and Cabell.

Answer. I was. I did hear General Fagan ask permission to renew the assault. I heard General Fagan state that he could take it by another assault, and that his (General Price's) escort ought to take part in the assault; that he had thrown his own escort in. General Price stated that he would not renew the assault. Cabell remarked to General Price that it was a damned wise decision.

Question. During the two days' stay at Boonville, was the ferry-boat constantly employed in crossing recruits to the army from North Missouri?

Answer. It was.

Question. Did you see General Price's command in several successful battles? State where and when.

Answer. I did. At Lexington, Mo.; on the Little Blue; in the vicinity of Independence; at Westport; in the valley of the Osage, on the 25th of October, 1864; at Newtonia, Mo., all during the fall campaign of the Army of Missouri in 1864.

Question. Did General Price dismount the larger portion of his troops before battle; and what were his usual dispositions before battle?

Answer. He invariably dismounted the larger portion of his troops. His usual dispositions were to form his line of battle in two ranks, dismounted, when with nine brigades, one to be kept mounted on each flank, artillery posted on line of battle or on the nearest commanding ground, supports designated for batteries, reserve of one or two brigades at about half or three-fourths of a mile, varying according to the character of the ground.

Question. Were you present when General Price received information that the enemy was moving at the Marais des Cygnes on the rear of his column? If so, did General Price return immediately at half speed, first ordering General Shelby to the rear with his old brigade under Brigadier-General Thompson?

Answer. I was. General Price returned as stated, and such orders were given to General Shelby in my presence.

Question. Were you with General Price when he met the retreating column at the Marais des Cygnes? State where it was, in what order, and where was the train.

Answer. I was not with General Price when he met the retreating column on the Marais des Cygnes.

Question. What other dispositions did General Price make with the unarmed troops after the Marais des Cygnes affair, and what was the result?

Answer. On the day of the Marais des Cygnes affair, while we were engaging the enemy between the Marmiton and the Osage, and while we were being pressed heavily by the enemy, General Price formed about 5,000 or 6,000 unarmed men and moved with them upon the enemy's right under a fire of shell, and the enemy gave way upon the advance of this force.

Cross-examination concluded.

The Court was then cleared to consider of questions suggested by a member.

Major-General Price again appearing before the Court, the witness, Capt. T. J. MACKEY, was re-examined by the JUDGE-ADVOCATE:

Question. How far were the pontoons carried, and were they ever used?

Answer. They were carried to Dardanelle, where four of the eighteen were converted into wagon bodies and the others burned.

Question. Was this information as to the enemy having forced into Fort Davidson prominent citizens of the vicinity subsequently confirmed; and, if so, how?

Major-General Price here objected to this question, and assigned the following reasons:

The question is improper because it is not necessary that the information should have been absolutely true. It is sufficient that the information should have reached the commanding general through the only channel by which that officer could acquire a knowledge of the state of things from citizens of the country who were well affected toward our army. If it appeared to be true, and was in accordance with the enemy's custom, that citizens should be pressed into their fortified places, especially sympathizers with General Price's cause, it is sufficient. It is a well-established principle of military criticism that a general is not to be judged by the state of facts that actually existed at the given time, but by such facts as appeared to him to exist from the best information he could gain.

The Court was then cleared for deliberation, and decided that the question be put.

The witness proceeded to answer:

After the retreat of the enemy I met a few citizens who were in the fort during the fight, who stated that they had been forced into it. The dead bodies of persons in citizens' dress were found in and around the work. These persons were identified as citizens by women after the fight.

By a MEMBER:

Question. What was the state of discipline in General Price's army during the campaign?

Answer. Not very good.

Question. You have already testified to the causes of delay during the march between Princeton and Potosi. Please state how many days were lost, and could this delay have been provided against?

Answer. Four or five days. This is only an approximate estimate, including delay from all causes. I think this could not have been provided against by any means within the control of the commanding general.

Question. How many cannon were fired at Fort Davidson from Shepherd's Mountain, and with what effect? What description of guns and caliber?

Answer. Two or three pieces. On the day of the assault two shells burst in or at the work. I cannot state with what effect, nor can I give a description of the guns.

Question. Were fascines or other material prepared for facilitating the passage of the ditch?

Answer. None whatever. After the assault I prepared a number of scaling ladders.

Question. You say that General Price on the morning of the 28th August ordered the pursuit of the enemy, who had evacuated Fort Davidson during the night. Do you know if any of them were overtaken and captured? If so, how many?

Answer. I cannot say of my own knowledge that they were overtaken.

Question. To what point did the enemy retreat, by what road, and when did he reach his destination?

Answer. He retreated to a point on the Southwest Branch of the Pacific Railroad. He moved from Pilot Knob along the Potosi road. In the vicinity of Caledonia he took the road to Steelville. I cannot say when he reached his destination.

Question. Did General Shelby return in time from Potosi to take any measures for intercepting or pursuing the retreating Federals?

Answer. He did not return in time to intercept them. He pursued them.

Question. When you felt convinced that the officer in command of the engineer company was a confirmed cripple, did you report the fact to Major-General Price; and if so, what action did he take?

Answer. I reported the fact to General Price, who stated that I had better put some other officer in command and that he would approve it.

Question. Did General Price have any of the Hannibal and Saint Joseph Railroad destroyed; and if so, how many miles of it?

Answer. He ordered the destruction of it in my presence. I know not if the order was executed or not.

Question (by a MEMBER): Did General Price give instructions for the destruction of any of the railroads in North Missouri? And if so, state what roads and then state the number of miles of each that were destroyed and where.

Answer. He did, of the North Missouri Railroad and the Hannibal and Saint Joseph. I cannot state the number of miles of each that were destroyed and where.

Major-General Price then asked the permission of the Court to propound to the witness the questions which follow. The Court was cleared, and after deliberation decided that the questions be asked; whereupon Major-General Price again appeared before the Court.

Question. You state the discipline of the command was not good. Does this statement relate to the time of General Price assuming the command or subsequently?

Answer. To both.

Question. Was the discipline at any time worse than usual with troops of that character in an enemy's country?

Answer. It was not.

Question. What was the character of the troops which joined General Price at the second rendezvous in North Arkansas?

Answer. General Shelby's old brigade and a large body of recruits, consisting of citizens of that section, conscripts, absentees without leave from their commands, and deserters, and but a few volunteers. Shelby's command was never in a high state of discipline, but reliable in battle. They were the right arm of the army. The larger parts of the command that joined us there were of recruits, conscripts, and absentees.

Question. Do you know of General Price sending a detachment from Boonville to destroy the Perruque bridge, on the North Missouri Railroad; and if so, to whom were the orders given? Give the names and character.

Answer. They were given to Colonels Anderson and Quantrill. They were the most distinguished partisan leaders, and were the terror of the enemy in that section and accustomed to operating on railroads.

The hour of 2 o'clock having arrived, the Court adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. to-morrow, the 27th instant.

SIXTH DAY.

THURSDAY, *April 27, 1865—9 a. m.*

At a Court of Inquiry then held at Shreveport, La., pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Col. P. N. Luckett, Third Texas Infantry; Maj. O. M. Watkins, assistant adjutant-general and judge-advocate.

The record of the previous day's proceedings was read.

The judge-advocate stated to the Court that on yesterday he had sent a summons to appear as a witness to Governor Thomas C. Reynolds, as directed by the Court, a copy of which is hereunto attached and marked Exhibit E,* to which summons said Governor Reynolds replied by the following letter:

SHREVEPORT, LA., *April 27, 1865.*

Maj. O. M. WATKINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Judge-Advocate, &c.:

MAJOR: Your letter of yesterday, informing me that the Court of Inquiry ordered at General Price's instance desired my attendance as a witness, has been received. Although the order convening the Court does not direct any investigation of the statements published by me in reference to General Price, yet as it was occasioned by them, and I have been and may hereafter be in consultation with you in reference to the inquiry, delicacy prompts me to exercise my legal right of declining to testify in the case. I do so with the greatest respect to the Court and yourself.

I am, major, very respectfully, yours,

THOS. C. REYNOLDS.

The judge-advocate submitted this letter to the Court and asked that the Court be cleared to consider it. The Court was accordingly cleared.

The Court decided that it had not the right to compel the attendance of Governor Reynolds, as he did not belong to the line or staff of the army.

General Price appeared before the Court.

The judge advocate represented to the Court that he was in no way connected with the campaign to be investigated. That when it was conducted he was serving far from the scenes of its operations, and that when ordered on the Court he had no knowledge of the matters to be investigated, with the exception of what could be gleaned from unofficial and *ex parte* statements contained in the newspapers of the day.

* Not found.

That Governor Reynolds, of Missouri, served throughout the campaign, and that Major-General Price, in his cross-examination, makes reference to charges contained in a letter or circular published by Governor Reynolds before this Court was asked for or ordered. He therefore requests the Court to permit Governor Reynolds to be present during the taking of such testimony as the Court may not deem necessary to be kept from the knowledge of one of his high official position in order that the judge-advocate for his own information may consult with him more intelligently on the facts and circumstances to be scrutinized by the Court.

The Court was cleared for deliberation. The request of the judge-advocate was refused, inasmuch as Governor Reynolds does not appear in the attitude of prosecutor, and the Court sits with its doors closed at all times to all persons except those absolutely necessary for the transaction of its business.

General Price again appeared before the Court.

The judge-advocate announced the decision of the Court.

Maj. JAMES R. SHALER, assistant adjutant-general, was then sworn and examined by the judge-advocate, no other witness being present:

Question. Were you in the campaign in Missouri in the autumn of 1864 under command of Major-General Price; and if so, in what capacity you served, when you joined the command, and when you left it?

Answer. Yes; I was the inspector-general of that army and on the staff of Major-General Price. I served in that capacity on the staff of Major-General Price from May, 1864, to December of that year.

Question. State the organization of the army under command of Major-General Price while operating in Missouri in September and October of 1864 at the beginning of the campaign, and give any material changes that were made during the campaign.

Answer. At the commencement of the march it was composed of Major-General Fagan's division and a battalion of three companies; Major-General Marmaduke's division of one brigade of Missouri troops and a battalion of six companies, and a brigade of Louisiana troops ordered to report to General Marmaduke, but failed to do so. Upon the arrival of the army at Pocahontas the army was reorganized, and upon leaving that place was composed of three divisions. Major-General Fagan's, composed of four brigades and a battalion of three companies, Major-General Marmaduke's of two brigades, and Brigadier-General Shelby's of two brigades. To Brigadier-General Cabell's and Colonel Slemons' brigades, in Major-General Fagan's division, there were attached two pieces of artillery, making four in all for the division. Major-General Marmaduke's division had a battalion of artillery attached to it composed of two batteries, three pieces in each battery. Brigadier-General Shelby's division had one battery of four pieces and one company as a body guard of the commanding general of the army. After arriving at Boonville a brigade of Missouri recruits of two regiments was formed and placed under the command of Colonel Tyler and became a part of Marmaduke's division. Besides these there were companies of partisan troops reported by their leaders to General Price, but never became a part of the regular organization.

Question. State the caliber and character of the artillery in the Army of Missouri.

Answer. I cannot state it with accuracy. They were field pieces, some of them rifled. Two of Brigadier-General Shelby's pieces were Parrott guns; the caliber I do not recollect.

Question. State the discipline of the troops when the campaign began and during it to its conclusion.

Answer. There was no discipline when it began and during the campaign, and at its conclusion there was all the disorder that must necessarily obtain in an undisciplined command.

Question. Were any measures adopted by General Price to secure discipline? If there were, state what measures.

Answer. Yes; orders were issued by General Price which, if carried out, would have secured order; but it was impossible to carry them into execution literally with such a command.

Question. State whether or not any depredations or outrages were committed by the soldiers of General Price's command during the campaign; and if so, state their character and general extent.

Answer. Yes, there were. The soldiers commenced plundering at Arcadia, and from there throughout the whole expedition. Wherever supplies were to be found there was more or less plundering. There seemed to be a desire upon the part of the troops generally not to molest persons of Southern proclivities, but whenever persons disposed to be favorable to the Federal cause were found their property was taken. All kinds of property was taken.

Question. State whether these outrages were committed by soldiers while on the march under the eye of their officers, or by what class of soldiers.

Answer. They were generally committed by soldiers who left the column, some straggling and some under permission of their immediate commanders. The captains of companies, regimental, brigade, and division commanders all gave permission to scout, and by such parties many depredations were committed.

Question. Were any measures adopted by General Price to prevent these outrages? If so, state what they were, and were any efforts made by him to punish such offenders? If there were, state the character of such efforts.

Answer. A provost guard was organized in each brigade and a provost-marshal-general appointed for the army. Provost-marshals of brigades reported to their provost-marshals of divisions, and they to the provost-marshal-general, who was directed by Major-General Price to call for whatever number of troops he required to prevent these outrages. Stringent orders were repeatedly given with reference both to stragglers and to private property, directing their arrest in all cases. In case of resistance on their part, that they should be shot down. In many instances General Price in person directed the arrest of persons with stolen property in their possession. General Price instituted a court-martial at or about Pocahontas. There were no other measures adopted that I can think of at present.

The hour of 3 p. m. having arrived, the Court then adjourned to meet again on to-morrow, the 28th instant, at 9 a. m.

SEVENTH DAY.

The Court assembled at 9.15 a. m. on Friday, April 28, 1865, pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Maj. O. M. Watkins, assistant adjutant-general and judge-advocate.

Maj. Gen. Sterling Price appeared before the Court.

Col. P. N. Luckett, Third Texas Infantry, was absent.

The proceedings of yesterday were read, after which the judge-advocate read to the Court the following note—

SHREVEPORT, LA., *April 28, 1865.*

Maj. O. M. WATKINS,
Judge-Advocate, &c.:

MAJOR: Colonel Luckett was quite sick this morning and will not be able to attend Court to-day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. M. TAYLOR,
Surgeon, Provisional Army, C. S.

and asked that the Court adjourn because of the illness of Colonel Luckett until Monday next. The Court then adjourned to meet again at 9 o'clock on Monday next, the 1st of May, 1865.

EIGHTH DAY.

The Court met at 9 a. m. on Monday, May 1, 1865, pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Maj. O. M. Watkins, assistant adjutant-general and judge-advocate.

Maj. Gen. S. Price appeared before the Court.

Proceedings of the seventh day were read.

The judge-advocate stated to the Court that he was informed by Surg. C. M. Taylor that Colonel Luckett was still too ill to attend Court.

The Court then at 9.15 a. m. adjourned to meet at 9. a. m. on tomorrow, the 2d day of May, 1865.

NINTH DAY.

The Court met at 9 a. m. on Tuesday, May 2, 1865, pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Maj. O. M. Watkins, assistant adjutant-general and judge-advocate.

Maj. Gen. S. Price appeared before the Court.

Col. P. N. Luckett, Third Texas Infantry, absent.

The judge advocate read the proceedings of yesterday, and also the following note from Surg. C. M. Taylor:

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, GENERAL HOSPITAL,
Shreveport, La., May 1, 1865.

Maj. O. M. WATKINS,
Judge-Advocate:

MAJOR: I have been prescribing for Colonel Luckett for some time past, and I am satisfied that he will not be able to continue as a member of the Court without serious injury to his health, and I have recommended that he apply for leave of absence for sixty days, and have given a certificate upon which he will base his application.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. M. TAYLOR,
Medical Director, General Hospital, Trans-Mississippi Department.

Whereupon the Court was cleared for deliberation, and resolved to proceed with the investigation of the case now before it.

Major-General Price again appeared before the Court.

The JUDGE-ADVOCATE continued the examination of Maj. JAMES R. SHALER, assistant adjutant-general's department:

Question. Did any recruits join the command of General Price during the campaign? If so, state how many and the number that returned with him to Arkansas, and what measures were adopted by General Price to recruit.

Answer. Yes; many. I think as many as 10,000. From 5,000 to 7,000 returned with us from Arkansas. General Price gave to persons applying authority to organize companies and regiments. I know of no other measure. The difficulty was not to get troops, but to organize them.

Cross-examined by Maj. Gen. S. PRICE:

Question. What number of armed troops entered the State of Missouri under General Price's command?

Answer. About 7,000.

Question. What was the number and character of the unarmed troops?

Answer. About 2,000 unarmed troops, mostly deserters.

Question. State what sort of troops constituted General Price's command with which he entered Missouri; what character of persons they were composed, and how officered.

Answer. About 5,000 of the troops were of the usual character of Confederate cavalry. The remainder were deserters and conscripts, officered by men of their own kind, to some extent. This does not apply to brigade commanders.

Question. Do you know of any marauders being executed summarily? State when and where, and in what manner.

Answer. Yes; I know of two certainly, and I think more having been shot down summarily for marauding by Colonel Freeman. I don't recollect when or where. Colonel Freeman notified me officially that when these men were arrested and brought to Colonel Freeman's quarters they admitted that they had been marauding, and one said that he would do the same thing again, whereupon he, Colonel Freeman, shot them. I cannot be precise as to the details.

Question. Do you know of General Price's complimenting Colonel Freeman for his shooting these men, and in what terms?

Answer. General Price expressed his approval of Colonel Freeman's conduct, but I do not remember whether Colonel Freeman was present or not.

Question. Did you hear General Price say if in his power he would make Colonel Freeman brigadier for that act?

Answer. I don't remember having heard him say so.

Question. Do you know of any officers being punished by General Price for participating in outrages?

Answer. Many were placed in arrest, from colonels of regiments down. I don't know what was done with them subsequently.

Question. Were these permissions to scout you mention as given by captains, regimental, and brigade commanders in accordance with General Price's orders?

Answer. They were in violation of them.

Question. Was it not absolutely necessary that the different commands should sometimes spread over a large extent of country on horseback to procure forage?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Was an additional provost guard ordered up at Arcadia and placed under command of Colonel Tyler, an old army officer?

Answer. Yes.

Question. You say the difficulty was not to get recruits, but to organize them. Was there any difficulty in subsisting, protecting, and arming them? State what.

Answer. Yes; there was great difficulty, as arms could not be procured. The unarmed men in the command interfered materially with the rapidity and effectiveness of its movements.

Question. Was not much the larger half of the troops unarmed from the time he reached Central Missouri?

Answer. I think so. I don't think that the armed men at any time during the campaign exceeded 8,000 or 9,000 in number.

Cross-examination by Major-General Price concluded.

Re-examined by the JUDGE-ADVOCATE:

Question. You say that these permits to scout, given by company, regimental, or brigade commanders were in violation of General Price's orders. State what measures, if any, were adopted by General Price to prevent their continuance, and whether or not any officer or officers were punished for having given such permission.

Answer. I know of no measures except reiterated orders from General Price and his staff officers forbidding such permissions. I don't know that any officers were punished for giving such permission.

The re-examination by the judge-advocate was here concluded.

By a MEMBER:

Question. What prevented an earlier movement of General Price from Camden?

Answer. Want of ordnance stores, which were to have been received from Shreveport.

Question. When did they arrive?

Answer. I can't give the precise date, but it was on the 27th or 28th of August. A considerable portion crossed the Ouachita River on Sunday, which I think was the 28th.

Question. What was the strength of Dobbin's brigade when at Pilot Knob? How did it happen that Colonel Dobbin did not intercept the enemy on his retreat from Fort Davidson?

Answer. I do not recollect, nor can I tell how it happened that the retreat was not intercepted.

Question. Were you in a position on the night of the 27th and 28th of September, 1864, to know whether sentinels and pickets were posted so as to detect the earliest movements of the enemy, aggressive or retreat?

Answer. I was not.

Question. Do you know that troops were stationed to watch the enemy in the fort and give notice of his movements at the earliest moment?

Answer. Yes; troops were stationed on the road leading along the Iron Mountain Railroad toward Saint Louis, and also upon the road by which the enemy eventually retreated toward Caledonia, and orders were sent to Brigadier-General Shelby to move down upon the Caledonia road, which, had he received, would have intercepted the retreat of the enemy.

Question. What was the nearest point to the fort that any of these troops were posted on the route by which the enemy retreated?

Answer. I don't know.

Question. Were you at the battle of Marais des Cygnes? Was the order of battle a judicious one? To what cause do you attribute the disasters of the day? Who was the immediate commander at Marais des Cygnes?

Answer. I was conducting the train, was with it when it was parked, about nine miles from where the fight began.

Question. Were the different foraging parties sent out during the march placed under the charge of commissioned officers?

Answer. Many times they were not.

Question. Why was it so difficult to carry out General Price's orders for the enforcement of discipline among the troops?

Answer. Because they were undisciplined troops, and also the command being always in motion it was impossible to inaugurate any system of discipline or punishment, and because there was a large number of unarmed men who seemed to think themselves not amenable to orders.

Question. Were any officers or soldiers punished or shot for marauding or straggling by sentence of a court-martial?

Answer. None that I know of.

Question. Did any disaster occur in the campaign attributable to a want of confidence or distrust in the leadership of the major-general commanding the expedition?

The judge-advocate objected.

The Court was cleared for deliberation and the objection was sustained.

Major-General Price appeared again before the Court.

Question. Was there any distrust or want of confidence in the leadership of Major-General Price on the part of the troops of the campaign?

Answer. Not that I know of.

Question. Were the orders issued by General Price in regard to the discipline of the troops in his command obeyed; and if not, did he, General Price, enforce obedience?

Answer. No, sir. General Price depended upon his division commanders to enforce his order, the composition of the command and the disposition of the troops being such as to render it impossible for him to attend to the enforcement of orders himself.

Question. What was the practice of General Price in the employment of guides on the march, and who had charge of them?

Answer. His practice was to procure guides from the different commands who were thoroughly acquainted with the country in which he was operating, and he was more particular about that than any other branch of my department of the army. I had charge of the guides myself and reported with them to the commander of the advance division.

The examination of Maj. James R. Shaler, assistant adjutant-general's department, was here concluded.

Capt. T. T. TAYLOR, assistant adjutant-general, was sworn by the JUDGE-ADVOCATE and examined by him, no other witness being present:

Question. State whether or not you served in the autumn campaign of Major General Price in the year 1864; and if so, state in what capacity you served, when you joined the command, and how long you remained with it.

Answer. I served with it as an attaché to the inspector-general's department; joined the command about the 28th or 29th of August, and remained until we reached Richmond in Arkansas, I think in the latter part of December.

Question. Were you assigned specially to the discharge of any duties during that time? If so, state to what duties.

Answer. At the beginning of the campaign and until we reached the Arkansas River I was directed by Colonel Shaler, the inspector-general, to attend the train and look after its movements. After we crossed the Arkansas I sometimes selected camps, but was not specially assigned to any particular duty.

Question. How were the orders of the major-general commanding published to the army during the campaign?

Answer. Through the adjutant-general's department. On the battle-field sometimes General Price gave orders himself and through his staff.

Question. State whether or not you ever heard an order of the major-general commanding read to the troops during the campaign.

Answer. I don't know that I ever did, I not being with the troops, but at General Price's headquarters.

Question. Did you ever ride along the lines of march to ascertain how the march was conducted?

Answer. Yes.

Question. State whether you did so frequently or not.

Answer. I did frequently.

Question. What was the character of the discipline of the troops during the march; whether or not there was any delay in the march? And if you say there was, state what caused it.

Answer. It was bad. Yes, there was delay. I don't know the reason of it.

The examination-in-chief was here concluded.

Cross-examined by Major-General PRICE:

Question. Had you not been acting as assistant to Colonel Shaler before the command started from Camden, and did you continue to do so on the campaign?

Answer. Yes.

Question. What was, in your knowledge, the diligence of Major-General Price in preserving order on the march, both as relates to the troops and the train?

Answer. There was great diligence.

Question. State the character of the troops. State what efforts General Price made to preserve good order and discipline.

Answer. The troops were undisciplined, and General Price frequently gave me personal instructions to prevent the straggling of the troops and the closing up of the train. I think I rode two horses to death in carrying out these instructions.

Question. Do you know of any court martial being held at Richwoods and elsewhere on the expedition into Missouri?

Answer. I know that it was held at several points on the road.

Question. Do you know of any soldiers being executed for marauding on the expedition? State how many, when and where.

Answer. Not of my own knowledge.

Question. Did you hear any officer make any report to General Price concerning the execution of men for marauding? If so, state what officer; state what was reported and what General Price did or said.

Answer. Yes, I heard Colonel Freeman, commanding brigade in Marmaduke's division, report to General Price in person that he had himself shot some men—I don't know how many, two I think—whom he had caught robbing. General Price said that if he had it in his power he would make him a brigadier for it.

Question. Do you remember any further particulars of the report than you have stated?

Answer. No, not to General Price.

Re-examined by the JUDGE-ADVOCATE:

Question. You have stated in answer to questions propounded during the cross-examination that you rode along the lines of the army during its march very often, and that General Price used great diligence in preserving order during the march; now state whether or not he took measures to correct every evil resulting from a want of order in the march that was officially reported by you to him.

Answer. He did.

Question (by a MEMBER): To what causes do you attribute the bad discipline of the army, as already stated by you?

Answer. To the fact that two-thirds of the army were deserters from commands south of the Arkansas River, and to the want of the enforcement of discipline by subordinate generals.

The examination of Captain Taylor is here concluded.

The hour of 3 p. m. having arrived the Court adjourned to meet again at 9 a. m. on Wednesday, the 3d day of May, 1865.

TENTH DAY.

WEDNESDAY, *May 3, 1865—9 a. m.*

The Court met pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, Provisional Army, C. S.; Brig. Gen. E. McNair, Provisional Army, C. S.; Maj. O. M. Watkins, assistant adjutant-general and judge-advocate. Col. P. N. Luckett, Third Texas Infantry, absent.

Major-General Price appeared before the Court.

The record of the proceedings of yesterday were read.

The judge-advocate then read to the Court the following order and letter from department headquarters.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 104. HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT, *Shreveport, La., May 2, 1865.*

* * * * * * *

VIII. The Court of Inquiry instituted at the instance of Major-General Price by Paragraph XVI, Special Orders, No. 58, current series, Department Headquarters, will on receipt of this order adjourn to Washington, Ark., and there resume its sessions.

By command of General E. Kirby Smith:

P. B. LEEDS,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. O. M. WATKINS.

HDQRS. TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Shreveport, May 3, 1865.*

Brig. Gen. T. F. DRAYTON,
Provisional Army, C. S., President Court of Inquiry, Shreveport:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to say the Court of Inquiry of which you are president will finish with the witness it may now have on the stand before adjourning to Washington as directed in the order of yesterday, but that no new witnesses will be called here.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The Court then at 10 a. m. adjourned to meet at Washington, Ark., on Monday, the 8th instant, at 12 m., or as soon thereafter as practicable.

OSCAR M. WATKINS,
Major, Assistant Adjutant-General and Judge-Advocate.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., May 19, 1865

I certify the above to be the original of the proceedings of a Court of Inquiry ordered from department headquarters in case of Major-General Price.

C. S. WEST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Major-General Price asks the indulgence of the Court and their patient consideration of the following:

The investigations up to the time of their summary interruption by the general commanding the department had developed enough of the history of the campaign into Missouri for his individual vindication and to relieve him from that feeling of delicacy which impelled him to forbear presenting anything to the Court that would put him in the attitude of seeking delay in this investigation, but it must be apparent to the Court that the range given by the order calling them places him continually at a disadvantage. Although the Special Orders, No. 58, Paragraph XVI, recites that a court of inquiry is called at the instance of Major General Price, that order mentions no imputation, charge, or transactions into which it is made your duty to inquire, unless it be considered that a campaign of nearly ninety days, in which over forty battles and skirmishes were fought, and nearly 1,500 miles traversed by the army under his command, is a transaction of such a character as the commanding general may be authorized to order a court of inquiry into at the instance of an officer who may desire it.

He desires here to remark that courts of inquiry in the army are instituted for the vindication of officers who have a right to demand them, and in all instances in demanding them the custom of the service and all analogies of the law would indicate that the applicant should himself indicate what transaction, charge, or imputation he desires investigated. And further, it is proper to remark that courts of inquiry, except when ordered by the President, are exclusively for the vindication of the personal honor of officers who ask them, and courts-martial are instituted solely for their prosecution and punishment, which are tribunals to be called into being at any and all times at the discretion of the commanding general. While it is the right of every officer to demand a court of inquiry into any charge, imputation, or transaction against him, it is still in the discretion, and is conceived to be in the line of duty, of the commanding officer of the department to determine if in his opinion the charge, transaction, or imputation is of such a character as will in the letter and spirit of the Articles of War warrant and authorize him in calling the court, and to grant or refuse it. If there is not such a state of facts brought officially to the knowledge of the commanding general as will bring the applicant within the — Article of War, the good of the service and other high considerations would impel him to deny what an over sensitive jealousy of his reputation might induce an officer to demand. The granting of a

court of inquiry is, under such circumstances, tantamount to an official statement that some transaction to be inquired into and explained, charge, or imputation, is before the reviewing officer and affecting his mind to the prejudice of the officer at whose instance he grants the inquiry. When such is the case the letter asking the court, or something indicating the particular transaction, should be laid before them both for their edification and the advantage of the officer whose honor and reputation is to be affected by the result of the inquiries.

Major-General Price stands ready to vindicate his own acts, but does not propose to vindicate the conduct of every single officer and man who accompanied him on his campaign last fall into Missouri. So far as respects himself personally as an officer and a gentleman, he desires everything brought to light concerning it; but as he could only exercise human diligence and human energy, and was forced to rely on the zeal and discretion of junior officers for such support as would with good fortune be successful, he cannot be fairly bound to defend all his juniors, who, not having asked for an inquiry, are not before this Court. Much less can it become him, and still further is it from his desire, to investigate such disasters to his command in Missouri as were accompanied with the loss or captivity of the brave and valuable officers who commanded immediately at the time.

Major-General Price requests that the Court will determine the course they may feel it their duty to pursue in the progress of this investigation, and that he may be advised of such determination and make his dispositions in accordance. He calls attention to the second clause of the Article of War under which all courts of inquiry are authorized and instituted, which relates to the danger of courts of inquiry being perverted and used for the destruction of military merit, and relies on the high tone and integrity of his brother officers, uninfluenced by other than considerations of the most manly and soldierly character, for his complete vindication. He must as in duty bound to himself insist that courts of this character can only legitimately be called into being and dissolved by commanding officers of departments, and that any unasked-for interference with their deliberations at any stage, so as to govern or direct any steps in the investigation, or produce delays, are without warrant and calculated to do him injustice and wrong.

EXHIBIT A.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., August 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. S. PRICE,
Commanding District of Arkansas:

GENERAL: You will make immediate arrangements for a movement into Missouri, with the entire cavalry force of your district. General Shelby should be instructed to have his command in Northeast Arkansas ready to move by the 20th instant. You can instruct him to await your arrival with the column immediately under your command. A brigade of Louisiana troops, under Colonel Harrison, has been ordered to report to you. They should be added to General Marmaduke's command, and with his old brigade constitute his division. General Clark should be transferred to the command of Marmaduke's old brigade. Colonel Greene should be left in Arkansas, together with the other regimental commanders whose mutinous conduct has already proved them unfitted for command.

General Shelby's old brigade, increased by the one raised in East Arkansas, can be organized into a division under his immediate command. General Fagan will command the division composed of Cabell's and Crawford's brigades. These skeleton organizations are best adapted for an expedition in which a large addition to your force is expected. These weak brigades should be filled by the regiments raised in Missouri, and you should scrupulously avoid the organization of any new brigades. You will carry a supply of ammunition for General Shelby's command in Northeast Arkansas, and should yourself be provided with ammunition sufficient for the expedition. You will scrupulously avoid all wanton acts of destruction and devastation, restrain your men, and impress upon them that their aim should be to secure success in a just and holy cause and not to gratify personal feeling and revenge. Rally the loyal men of Missouri, and remember that our great want is men, and that your object should be, if you cannot maintain yourself in that country, to bring as large an accession as possible to our force. Your recruits will in all probability be mounted; deal frankly with them, and let them understand that mounted organizations, made there through necessity, are liable to be dismounted on their arrival in our lines, where forage and subsistence will not admit the maintenance of so large a cavalry force. Make Saint Louis the objective point of your movement, which, if rapidly made, will put you in possession of that place, its supplies, and military stores, and which will do more toward rallying Missouri to your standard than the possession of any other point. Should you be compelled to withdraw from the State, make your retreat through Kansas and the Indian Territory, sweeping that country of its mules, horses, cattle, and military supplies of all kinds. The division of General Fagan, the senior officer of your command, should be increased as soon as practicable.

By command of General E. Kirby Smith:

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

AUGUST 30, 1864.—Skirmish near Dardanelle, Ark.

Report of Lieut. Col. Irving W. Fuller, Third Arkansas Cavalry.

LEWISBURG, *August 31, 1864.*

Lieutenant King, Third Arkansas Cavalry, with forty men, attacked Captain Franc's rebel force from Dardanelle yesterday, and captured 30 stand small-arms and 30 horses and saddles, killing 1 man and wounding several others. The rebels escaped by swimming Beatty's Mill Creek.

I. W. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AUGUST 30–SEPTEMBER 2, 1864.—Expedition to Natchez Bayou, La., with skirmish (September 1) near Gentilly's Plantation.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

No. 2.—Capt. Aaron McFeely, Sixteenth Indiana Infantry.

No. 1.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

THIBODEAUX, *September 2, 1864.*
(Received 12.10 p. m.)

A scouting party of two commissioned officers and thirty-five enlisted men left here on the 30th. Colonel Davis telegraphs me from Napoleonville that six of them came in, reporting the rest captured last evening near Gentilly's plantation, near Bay Natchez, which is below and this side of Lake Natchez. He says he sent a force after the rebels at 2 p. m. (he must mean 2 a. m.), who are driving the rebels.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

THIBODEAUX, *September 2, 1864.*
(Received 8 p. m.)

Fifteen of the party of the Sixteenth Indiana surprised at Gentilly's plantation are reported safe.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General.

Major CHRISTENSEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

THIBODEAUX, *September 3, 1864.*
(Received 12 m.)

Captain Steele, of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, pursued the party of guerrillas who surprised the Sixteenth Indiana scouts, driving them across Lake Natchez Bay. He returned to-day, reporting that he had wounded 2 rebels and suffered no loss.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Maj. G. B. DRAKE.

No. 2.

Reports of Capt. Aaron McFeely, Sixteenth Indiana Infantry.

HDQRS. CO. G, 16TH INDIANA VOL. MOUNTED INFANTRY,
Near Thibodeaux, September 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report:

On the 31st of August, 1864, I was furnished with a detail of thirty-five men and one lieutenant, and was ordered to report at post head-

quarters to Colonel Goelzer. This I did about 1 o'clock the same day. I there received my orders. I proceeded to Napoleonville, reaching that place after dark. I stopped during the night in the court-house. I inquired of Colonel Davis, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, as to the whereabouts of the enemy, if there were any in the direction of Lakes Natchez or Verret. He told me there were none in that direction this side of the lake. Next morning, September 1, 1864, I started in the direction of Lake Verret; proceeded six miles to Paincourtville. Here I inquired of Captain Steele, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, about roads and bayous. I also asked him if he knew of any armed enemies. He said that there was none in the direction we were going. After getting all the information I could I proceeded to Grand Bayou; crossed on a bridge. Here I stopped for the men to feed their horses. I was then on Doctor Ford's plantation. Staid there half an hour, then proceeded on. We had gone about a mile when we came to Bayou Corn, which we crossed in a small ferry-boat. This took considerable time, as only three horses could be crossed at once. After crossing Bayou Corn I started in the direction of Lake Verret, which was nearly due west. Traveled eight miles over very muddy roads, crossing two other bayous on small bridges, the names of which I did not learn. Proceeded to within five miles of Lake Verret. At this point I came to a large bayou or bay, which was over a hundred yards wide. I inquired of two women, whom I supposed kept the ferry, if they could tell me the name of the bayou, but I could not understand them, both being French. It was here I turned to come back. I supposed it to be five miles from the large bayou to the Gentilly plantation, and knowing that it was getting late in the day I thought it best to come back that far, which I did. It was near dark when I reached this plantation. Before dismounting my men I stationed my pickets, then had the remaining part of my men to dismount and feed their horses and cook supper.

The manner in which the pickets were stationed was as follows: I placed five men at a bridge which crossed one of the bayous above-mentioned. (I also ordered the bridge taken up in the center.) I placed four men on this side of our camp on the road leading from the bridge. On the east side was a large swamp; there was no danger from that direction. I also placed four men on a plantation road that runs through the farm on the west side and in the direction of Lake Natchez. The men had some of them laid down, and I and the lieutenant had just lain down beside a fence, when we were startled by the bursting of a gun-cap. We both sprang to our feet and called to our men, but in an instant the enemy were in our midst. I ordered my men to fire upon them, but there was but one shot fired. The enemy came from the direction of Lake Natchez and across the plantation on the west side of the road. My opinion is that those who escaped went through the swamps on the east side of the road and crossed the bayous and made their way to Paincourtville to our lines, the same as I did myself. There was not any of my men killed that I am aware of. The number captured was 1 commissioned officer and 15 enlisted men, 29 horses, and 26 guns and accouterments.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

AARON McFEELY,
Captain Company G, Sixteenth Indiana.

Capt. B. B. CAMPBELL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SIXTEENTH INDIANA MOUNTED INFANTRY,
Near Thibodeaux, La., September 22, 1864.

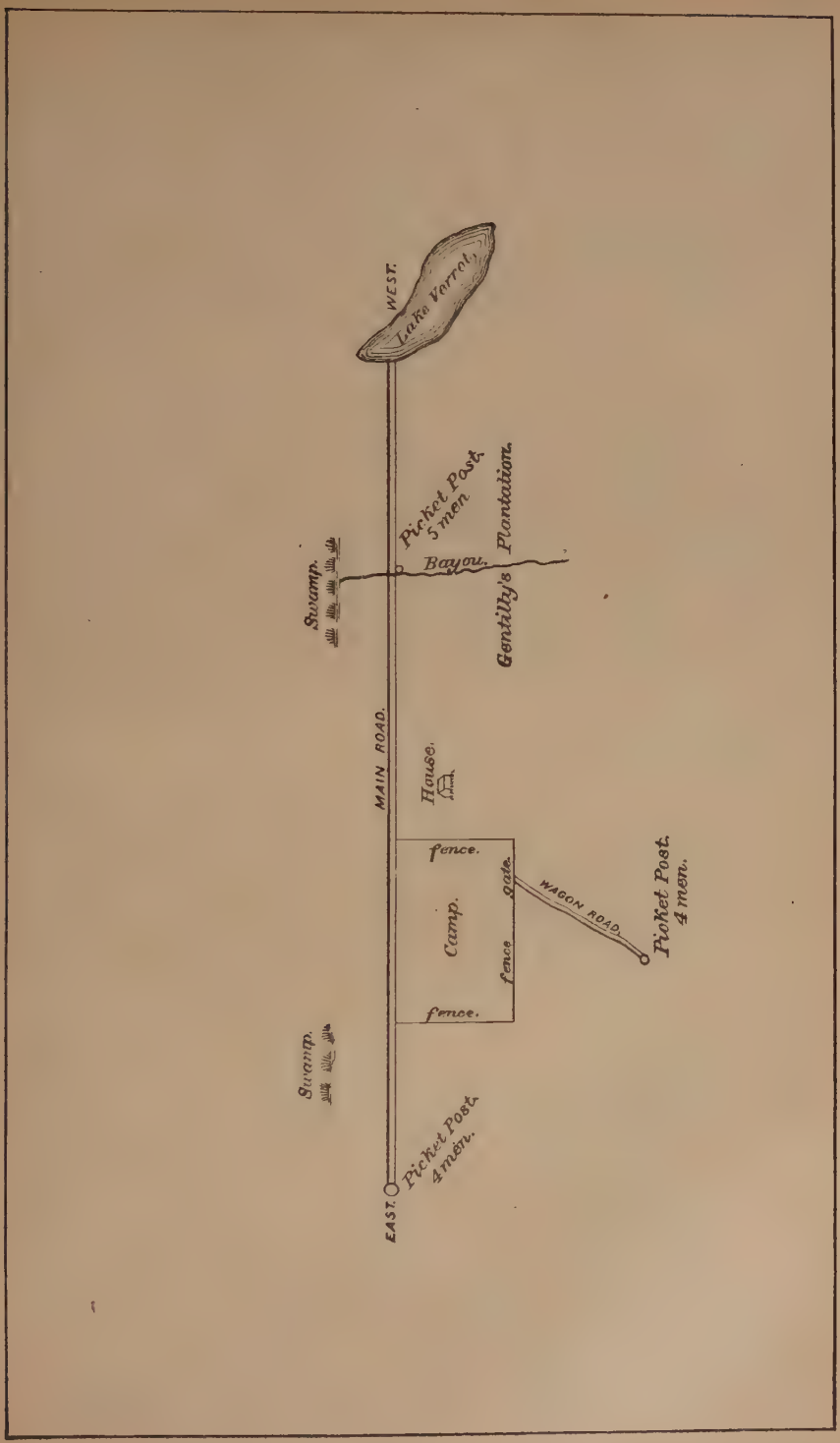
CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders, dated New Orleans, August 19, 1864, I have the honor to transmit you a report of an expedition of which I was in command to destroy all water craft found north of the Opelousas railroad and west of Bayou La Fourche, also to find out the strength of the enemy if any were reported.

Immediately on receipt of the order I reported at post headquarters, District of La Fourche, with one lieutenant and thirty-five enlisted men, and received instructions to proceed to Napoleonville and obtain from the military authorities at that place the best manner to proceed as regards roads, &c. Arriving there at dark on the evening of the 30th of August, I there learned from Colonel Davis, commanding, that no enemy had been seen or heard of this side of Lakes Verret or Natchez, twenty miles distant. I was also informed that the roads leading to those lakes were impassable, or very nearly so, on account of the late rains. I inquired if any water craft were to be found in any of the different bayous, but was told there were only a few pirogues that the inhabitants were using to convey the necessaries of life to their families. At Napoleonville I stopped until about 7 o'clock on the morning of the 31st instant [ultimo], then proceeded to Paincourtville, a distance of six miles, arriving there at 8.30 o'clock; from thence in a westerly direction to Doctor Ford's plantation, the distance being five miles. At that place I allowed the men to feed their animals. This plantation lies on Grand Bayou, which stream I crossed before reaching the plantation. From here I went across to Bayou Corn, about a mile distant. This bayou I crossed on a kind of flat-boat that was used as a ferry; it was some time before this could be accomplished as I could only cross four animals over at a time, and by the time we were all across it was 12 o'clock. From here I moved forward about five miles, crossing two small bayous, and at 2.30 o'clock arrived at Gentilly's plantation. At this place there is a blind wagon road leading through the plantation, but could not find out where it terminated. I here made inquiries concerning the whereabouts of the enemy, but was told that there were none in that vicinity as they had not been heard of for more than two weeks.

Keeping on in the same direction, viz, westerly, I arrived at Natchez Bayou at sundown, a distance of six miles. The roads here were very bad and muddy. Being informed that there were no roads leading to Lake Natchez from the road I was then on, and knowing I could only go about four miles farther on it to Lake Verret, I concluded to retrace my steps to the junction of the road so that I could get on the road leading to Lake Natchez.

Coming back to Gentilly's plantation, it being then about 7.30 in the evening, I concluded to camp here for the night as both men and horses were very much fatigued by the march, but before going into camp I had a picket detailed and posted immediately. The following diagram will show the exact position of the camp and also the roads and pickets:

On examination I found the blind wagon road led to the northward through the plantations supposed to connect with the main road leading to Lake Natchez. On this road I placed a picket-post of five men about 400 or 500 yards from camp on the west; on the main road, toward Lake Verret, I placed a picket-post of five men, on a bridge that crossed a small bayou. Supposing this to be the most dangerous point, I gave directions to pull up the plank on the bridge, which was


WEST.
Lake Verret.
Picket Post. 5 men.
Bayou.
Gentilly's Plantation.
Swamp.
MAIN ROAD.
House.
fence.
Camp.
gate.
fence.
fence.
WAGON ROAD.
Picket Post. 4 men.
Swamp.
Picket Post. 4 men.
EAST.

accordingly done. On the east on the main road which I had been moving on during the day, I placed a picket-post of four men. Knowing the pickets to be posted, I gave orders for the men to feed their animals and get supper for themselves. After partaking of supper I lay down to rest. The men, however, were not done supper, it being then 8.30; about an hour after going into camp. Having lain there for a few moments, I was startled by the explosion of a gun-cap. I immediately jumped up to find out the cause, and ordered the men under arms and to be ready should occasion require it, but before the order could be obeyed it was discovered that a party of the enemy had come upon us, wading and cutting off the picket-post of four men posted on the blind wagon road leading through the plantation, the enemy coming in from two directions, viz, northwest and northeast. They were on foot. As to their number it is impossible for me to tell—the next day, however, in going through a swamp, I saw about 100 of them, all mounted. They patrolled the road from the plantation to Bayou Corn from the time we were attacked until 10 o'clock next day, as I tried several times to get across Bayou Corn during that time, but failed, and did not get across until a party of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry appeared, when the enemy left. I would state here that the attack was so sudden and unexpected—having been told by every one that no enemy was in the neighborhood, especially by the authorities at Napoleonville—that some of the men did not have time to move out of their place before they found themselves prisoners. Being outnumbered and surprised, we saw the only chance of escaping was to leave everything and get away as fast as possible the best way we could. The following is the list of men, horses, &c., lost and captured: One lieutenant, 15 enlisted men, 28 guns and accouterments, 29 horses and equipments.

Hoping the foregoing report may prove satisfactory, I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AARON McFEELY,
Captain, Commanding Company G, Sixteenth Indiana.

Capt. FREDERIC SPEED, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

AUGUST 31, 1864.—Affair at Steelville, Mo.

Reports of Brig. Gen. John McNeil, U. S. Army, commanding District of Rolla.

ROLLA, MO., *August 31, 1864.*

E. G. Evans, deputy provost-marshal at Cuba, reports the robbing of Steelville this morning at daylight by Lennox's gang. A Baptist preacher named Butler was mortally wounded and the town plundered.

JOHN McNEIL,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. F. ENO, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

ROLLA, MO., *September 2, 1864.*

On the morning of day before yesterday as the gang of bushwhackers left Steelville they met five militia coming in to join their companies and killed every one of them.

JOHN McNEIL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. FRANK ENO, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

SEPTEMBER 1, 1864.—Attack on Tipton, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. David W. Wear, Forty-fifth Missouri Infantry.

SEDALIA, *September 1, 1864.*

Forty-two rebels entered Tipton at 6 o'clock this morning; killed 2 men; went in direction of Boonville. Reports to me from reliable source place the number at 150 men. They say they will attack Boonville in the morning.

D. W. WEAR,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

General PLEASONTON,
Warrensburg.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1864.—Skirmish near Beatty's Mill, Ark.

Report of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

LEWISBURG, ARK., *September 2, 1864.*
(Received 7.30 p. m.)

Captain Hamilton and sixty-five men returned from scout to Yell County. On the 1st instant, near Beatty's Mill, he met 160 bushwhackers under Conly. Charging immediately, he put them to flight, killing 2, wounding several, releasing the assistant surgeon and 1 private of the Second Arkansas Infantry, whom the enemy had prisoners. He also captured a lot of Spanish brown, which the bushwhackers were using to disguise themselves as Indians. No boats yet. River falling.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 1–9, 1864.—Operations in Johnson County, Mo., and skirmish (1st) near Lone Jack.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 2.—Capt. Melville U. Foster, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, Mo., September 1, 1864.

GENERAL: Following just received:

HOLDEN, *September 1, 1864.*

Lieutenant Marr has returned with scout which went out last night. Found a gang of forty-five guerrillas five miles south of Lone Jack. Killed 1 and wounded several others badly. Routed them completely. Lost 1 man killed.

W. P. BAKER,
Captain, Commanding.

Colonel Ford reports return of scout from vicinity of Chapel Hill and Cook's Springs. No large force of the enemy concentrating, but small recruiting bands are seen nearly every day.

A. PLEASONTON,
Major-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Melville U. Foster, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HOLDEN, MO., *September 11, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report scouts, marches, &c., of my command:

September 1, sent Lieutenant Marr with thirty men of both companies in the direction of Lone Jack; came upon squad of about fifteen rebels twelve miles northeast of this place, at the house of Mrs. Simmons. Had a lively time for a few moments, killing 1 and wounding 4, as it is said by the people of the neighborhood. Lost 1 man killed, Jacob F. Rauk, Company C, Seventh Regiment Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and 2 men of Company G, severely wounded by horses falling in charge. Lost 2 horses and 1 horse equipment. Returned next day. Traveled fifty miles. September 3, took thirty men of both companies and proceeded, in obedience to Special Orders, No. 159, headquarters District Central Missouri, to collect $800 from the rebel sympathizers of Stone's neighborhood as damages sustained by reason of bushwhackers burning stage, of which proceedings I have made a full report to Capt. R. L. Ferguson, deputy provost-marshal. Returned on the 6th. Traveled sixty miles. September 7, took thirty men of both companies; went to Walnut Creek to protect Union families while moving out. Traveled thirty miles. September 9, sent Sergeant Leiter and twenty men of both companies to escort Lieut. A. W. Christian, assistant inspector, to Pleasant Hill. Returned next day. Traveled thirty-four miles. Besides this there has been a daily patrol to Pleasant Hill. I would also report that I have turned over to the proper officers six horses taken from bushwhackers, and that I have delivered one horse so taken to Barton S. Bradley, Company C, who lost a horse in action.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MEL. U. FOSTER,
Captain, Commanding.

Lieut. J. N. PENNOCK,
Adjutant Seventh Regt. Cav., M. S. M., Warrensburg, Mo.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1864.—Skirmish at the Tannery, near Little Rock, Ark.

Report of Capt. Thomas J. Mitchell, Third Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. THIRD CAVALRY MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
Camp near Little Rock, Ark., September 2, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that early this afternoon a squad of rebels, numbering probably seventy-five men, attacked our force at the tannery, but were repulsed with some loss. Several horses were killed and a prisoner captured. The prisoner reports that he

belongs to a Colonel Logan's regiment, composed of about 150 or 200 men, who started from Benton this morning. He also states that two brigades of cavalry, under Cabell and Steen, were encamped on the south side of the Saline, whilst Colonel Logan's force was on this side. He also states that he heard that an infantry force was on the march from Camden toward Princeton. I also report that my whole mounted force are on duty after these rebels, and that it is impossible to fill the detail for twenty-five mounted men called for this afternoon. The prisoner also reports several men wounded of his command, and that they got out of the valley faster than they got in.

None of our men were injured, but several horses captured.

I am, lieutenant, respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. MITCHELL,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1864.—Skirmish near Mount Vernon, Mo.

Report of Col. John D. Allen, Seventh Provisional Regiment, Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. SEVENTH PROVISIONAL REGIMENT, E. M. M.,
Mount Vernon, Mo., September 4, 1864.

COLONEL: I have this morning received information that there was about 400 rebels that made the attempt to take Mount Vernon on last Friday. Captain Stotts, who was at Cave Spring with twenty-five men of his own command and a portion of Captain Stemmens' company, discovered the rebels in force; dispatched a messenger to me immediately. I sent Captain Morris with sixty men to re-enforce Captain Stotts. The rebels went round Stotts' camp and made direct for Mount Vernon. Captain Morris met them in force five miles west of Mount Vernon, when an engagement ensued, the rebels having some five or six to one; Captain Morris had to fall back; dispatched to me immediately. I collected all the militia that was available and went to his relief; met him coming in. We then went back to the place he left the rebels, but on arriving there I was informed by citizens that the rebels had gone southwest. I started in that direction and soon discovered about fifty men on the prairie in line. I formed line and ordered a charge, which was obeyed promptly, but after running about three miles I got close enough to discover that I was chasing Captain Stotts. By this time it was getting dark. It rained and was very dark. Early next morning I started 200 men under Captain Morris, all the available cavalry force that I could raise. They went in five miles of Carthage on the south side of Spring River, then turned north, crossed the river, came up White Oak Creek without making any discovery, but the captain got reliable information that there was 400 rebels and he thought it prudent to return to Mount Vernon, for I had but few men left. The captain learned that they were about Carthage. I have also received information from Arkansas that the rebel Colonel Brooks was in War Eagle, in Arkansas, with from 500 to 700 men and intended to join Major Piercey below this and take this place. I will give you my situation here. I have something over 300 men very poorly armed, good men and will fight. Now if I can get a force from Springfield

sufficient to annihilate them it will prevent Brooks from joining them. There is plenty of rebel forage in Jasper County that ought to be used by the Federals if possible to do so.

My informant as to Brooks is Major Moore; he has just returned from a scout near Berryville, in Carroll County, Ark., and brings me the information. He has it from different sources. I intend to hold this country if possible. The time is close at hand when I will stand in need of help, but if I can get it in time I think I can make it pay. I will refer you to Captain Kelso, Captain Allen, Lieutenant Bowers as to the real situation of this country and also the importance, &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN D. ALLEN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Col. J. D. BRUTSCHE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Springfield, Mo.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1864.—Skirmish near Quitman, Ark.

Report of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

LEWISBURG, *September 7, 1864—7 p. m.*

Detachment of forty men with ammunition for Shelby crossed at Dardanelle on Monday last. On the 2d instant Captain Napier and Lieutenant Carr had a skirmish with Colonel Witt, eight miles from Quitman, killed 7, and captured Captain Livingston and 4 men of Witt's command.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 2–4, 1864.—Expedition from Sedalia, Mo., to Scott's Ford, on the Blackwater.

Report of Lieut. William Argo, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

SEDALIA, MO., *September* 4, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report, to wit:

On the evening of the 2d we received a dispatch from Lieutenant Houston, Company L, Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, that he had found where the rebels were encamped near Buffalo Prairie, in Cooper County, Mo. Their reported strength he represented 150. Captain Vansickler, in command of post, got up a scout of forty-five men, Captain Allison and myself making forty-seven, aside from Lieutenant Stephens, who was put in command of the scout with secret instructions from Captain Vansickler that in case we got into a fight I should assume command. We started from Sedalia late in the evening on Friday, and met Lieutenant Houston coming back, who stated there were some 200 of the rebels, and that we could not safely attack them; whereupon I told him that I would go and see where they were for the information of the general commanding. We traveled until about 12 o'clock; got in the neighborhood of where they were represented to be, but found no sign or indication of their being there. I then struck down the La Mine, near the mouth of Clear Creek, when struck the trail at Pond Bottom, on the La Mine. Lieutenant Stephens wanted to

return, and I had the utmost difficulty in persuading him to pursue. I found that the two squads had concentrated near here after doing their plundering and murdering, having captured between 30 and 40 horses, a large number of arms, merchandise, &c., killing some 8 or 10 citizens, amongst whom are the names of Captain Davis, formerly of Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, one soldier discharged at Tipton, a butcher in the same place, at or near Pilot Grove a man by the name of Zellers, an old gentleman by the name of Fuller, another by the name of Beel, several other Germans whose names I was unable to obtain. We followed them on until they crossed the Blackwater at Scott's Ford, where we ascertained that they had been at Marshall's Ford, three or four miles below, the evening before. We went down until we ascertained they were most likely to be there still, but I was unable to obtain the consent of Lieutenant Stephens to pursue any farther. They were feeding at Marshall's, and I think might very well have been surprised and probably most of the property captured by using proper precaution. The command was under Todd. I think Jackson was not along, as there was a robbery committed on Thursday night by his band near Longwood, which accounts for him not being there, he being with that band. My present impression is that both bands have their headquarters near the mouth of Blackwater.

I have the honor to remain, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. ARGO,
Lieutenant and Provost-Marshal.

Captain STEGER.

SEPTEMBER 2–10, 1864.—Scouts on the Little Blue River, in Jackson County, Mo.

Report of Capt. Isaac F. Evens, Second Colorado Cavalry.

HICKMAN MILLS, MO., *September 10, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of scouts made from this station during the ten days ending September 10, 1864:

On the 2d instant, at 8 p. m., Lieutenant Ducey with twenty men of Company A, Second Colorado Cavalry, left this station, mounted, to scout toward head of Little Blue. Returned on east side. Remained on the Blue during the night and next day (3d). Returned night of 3d without discovering any signs of bushwhackers. On the 5th instant took twenty-five men of Company A, Second Colorado Cavalry, to make a foot scout on Little Blue, northeast from station. Followed down Little Blue to near Camp Waggoner; from thence crossed over Big Blue during the night. Returned on the night of the 6th without discovering any signs of bushwhackers. On the morning of the 8th instant I left station with twenty-five horsemen and proceeded to make a scout on Little Blue. When five miles northeast of station, at the house of John Moore in the Little Blue timber, I discovered a bushwhacker camp which had just been abandoned not more than half an hour. I judged from their trail there were thirty or forty of them. I followed the trail down the Blue and found plenty of fresh tracks on every path we crossed. I saw a party of ten or twelve in an orchard near the railroad, to whom I gave chase. They succeeded in getting out of sight on account of a momentary confusion occasioned by several of my horses being thrown by a piece of telegraph wire which was fastened between two trees and concealed by weeds. I watched some houses on the Blue until about

11 p. m., when I started for station, when, on reaching Independence road, I learned from the citizens that bushwhackers had just been at several houses in the vicinity, demanded and took the uniforms, with overcoats and blankets, from the militia, or citizen guard, which had been issued to them by the U. S. Government. I returned to camp at 1 p. m., and immediately sent out forty footmen to watch the roads leading to Little Blue. Started out early next morning with twenty-five mounted men, and about noon found where a large party had been in camp half a mile from Rock Ford on Pleasant Hill road. They had evidently left on our approach. I think there were not less than a hundred in the party. They moved down the Blue. The foot scouts are still out in that direction. My horses are much worn from constant riding. Reports are coming in by citizens of small parties seen in various directions. They have not as yet taken anything but militia clothing from citizens.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

ISAAC F. EVENS,
Capt. Co. A, Second Colo. Cav., Comdg. Station, Hickman Mills.

Brig. Gen. E. B. BROWN,
Commanding District of Central Missouri.

SEPTEMBER 3, 1864.—Skirmishes near Rocheport, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

GLASGOW, MO., *September 4, 1864.*

We are constantly fighting the bushwhackers. Twelve of the Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia were surprised and killed near Rocheport yesterday. Major Leonard killed 6 of Anderson's gang, taking from their dead bodies 30 revolvers and capturing 7 horses. Another party killed 4 of the same gang and captured 25 horses. Boone and Howard are swarming with guerrillas. Every conceivable bushwhacker, from Bill Anderson down to Guitar, can be found in this region.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Lieutenant CLARKE,
Aide-de-Camp, Saint Joseph.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1864.—Affair near Donaldsonville, La.

Report of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

THIBODEAUX, *September 4, 1864.*
(Received 6.40 p. m.)

About twenty-five rebels attacked the couriers coming from Plaquemine to Donaldsonville this morning about nine miles above Donaldsonville. About 200 are reported there. Colonel Davis has sent out a party on a reconnaissance.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding District.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1864.—Attack on steamers Celeste and Commercial, at Gregory's Landing, on the White River, Ark.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, September 6, 1864—1.30 p. m.

CAPTAIN: The Celeste and Commercial have returned with Graves' own force. The other boats expected soon. On the afternoon of the 4th the boats were fired into at Gregory's Landing. Colonel Graves and 8 men were wounded, 1 killed, 1 since died. Graves is rather severely wounded in the leg. The next day they went into Augusta. No enemy there, and has not been for a month. Dobbin was reported east of Cache River; Shelby in neighborhood of Jacksonport.

Very respectfully,

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Little Rock.

SEPTEMBER 6, 1864.—Affair near Brunswick, Mo.

Report of Col. William E. Moberly, Thirty-fifth Infantry Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. THIRTY-FIFTH REGT. ENROLLED MO. MILITIA,
Brunswick, Mo., September 7, 1864.

GENERAL: I have to report that on the 6th instant Sergt. Henry Shrader and a small squad of men, partly armed and partly unarmed, were captured by a band of bushwhackers under the following circumstances: Sergeant Shrader was sent out with a squad to get clean clothes and notify absent men to come into camp, and while out on that business was belated and overtaken by a storm. A band of bushwhackers learning his locality and situation succeeded in surrounding him and capturing him and his squad. They were stripped and disarmed, 4 guns being taken from them. I cannot attach any blame to Sergeant Shrader, as I consider his capture one of those unavoidable and unfortunate accidents to which all men are liable in war times, and especially when immediate danger is not apprehended. Sergeant Shrader is an unconditional Union man, a veteran soldier, and a good officer.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. MOBERLY,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

General C. B. FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri, Saint Joseph, Mo.

SEPTEMBER 6, 1864.—Skirmish at the Palmetto Ranch, near Brazos Santiago, Tex.

Report of Col. Henry M. Day, Ninety-first Illinois Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Brazos Santiago, Tex., September 8, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of a slight engagement which took place at Palmetto ranch on the Rio Grande River, about sixteen miles from these headquarters:

Learning from my scouts that the rebels had collected a large number of cattle, which they intended to sell to the French troops at Bagdad, and that said cattle were in a bend in the river just above the White ranch, I determined, after mature deliberation, to try and capture them, and at the same time drive back the rebels from their position, as they had been annoying us in various ways very much during the past few days. Accordingly, on the morning of the 6th I ordered a squadron of the First Texas Cavalry and one piece of artillery (12-pounder howitzer) to proceed up the country and accomplish the object above-named. Maj. E. J. Noyes commanded the expedition; Capt. P. G. Temple, the cavalry; Lieut. A. Hils, First Missouri Artillery, the artillery. After crossing the Boca Chica Pass skirmishers were thrown out to the right and left, and as they advanced the rebels slowly retired, until, reaching the Palmetto ranch, a stand was made, and brisk firing ensued. The main body arrived soon after, and a fair prospect of a heavy engagement was apparent, as the rebels were having re-enforcements from above; but our artillery opened a very effective fire with shell, which had the effect to disperse the enemy, and the last seen of him he was flying in confusion in the direction of Brownsville. Word being sent me by the major commanding of his position, I advanced three miles with a detachment of the Ninety-first Illinois Infantry Volunteers to re-enforce him in case of necessity. It was not needed, however, and the whole force returned to camp on the morning of the 7th. The expedition was successful in its results, for a lot of cattle were captured and brought in, and the rebels forced to leave this section of the country.

Hoping this report will prove satisfactory, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. M. DAY,
Colonel, Commanding Forces.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Gulf.

SEPTEMBER 6–7, 1864.—Scout from Little Rock to Benton, Ark.

Report of Col. John F. Ritter, First Missouri Cavalry, commanding brigade.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, Ark., September 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, pursuant to Special Orders, No. 91, paragraph 7, dated headquarters First Division, Seventh Army Corps, Little Rock, Ark., September 5, 1864, I proceeded with the

available portion of my command, about 350 men, to Benton, Ark., and reached there at 1.30 p. m. on the 6th instant. A small force of the enemy was found in the town, and driven across the Saline, skirmishing on the banks. Colonel Logan's Eleventh Arkansas Regiment, C. S. Army, about 400 strong, was reported to be in camp three miles on the opposite side of the Saline, no other force in the vicinity. A prisoner of this regiment who was captured this side of Benton reported that the main force of the enemy had retired to Arkadelphia. The citizens of the place reported that Generals Price and Fagan, with about 4,000 cavalry and artillery, had left there last Thursday and taken the Hot Springs road; some reported, however, that this force was marching toward White River. My force remained in and about Benton nearly two hours. I came back in the direction of Little Rock about four miles (Mr. Thompson's), not being able to get forage for my animals at any nearer place, where I encamped for the night. This morning I marched and reached this place at 11.30 a. m. without being disturbed by or meeting any of the enemy. One man of the Fourth Arkansas Cavalry was wounded, also 2 horses wounded and 1 killed.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JNO. F. RITTER,
Colonel First Missouri Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. A. BLOCKI,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Division, Seventh Army Corps.

SEPTEMBER 6–7, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to Bayou Sara, La.

*Itinerary of the Provisional Brigade, U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Alonzo J. Edgerton, Sixty-seventh U. S. Colored Infantry, commanding.**

This brigade has, during the month of September, worked every alternate day on the fortifications at this post, Morganza, La.

September 6.—Two hundred men of the Sixty-seventh Regiment and 200 men of the Sixty-second Regiment, commanded by Lieut. Col. A. O. Millington and Major Hudson, respectively, accompanied an expedition beyond Bayou Sara, and returned on the afternoon of the 7th; were in no engagement.

SEPTEMBER 6–8, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Lewisburg, Ark., with skirmishes at Norristown (6th) and near Glass Village (8th).

Reports of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

LEWISBURG, *September 7, 1864—12.20 p. m.*

Dockery's brigade was on the north side of the river, at Russellville, and Dover yesterday. Yesterday morning a scout of sixty men, under Lieutenants Mason and Gates, dashed into Norris [Norristown] and found Gordon's regiment, of Cabell's brigade, on picket. They drove them from the town with no loss, and captured 13 horses. At Dardanelle they saw a force of the enemy with mule teams, &c.

*From monthly return.

From a woman who had been in Dardanelle they learned that Price was there, and in command. The rebels state that they intend capturing this place, to help Shelby out of his scrape, and then go to Missouri. The Chippewa left this morning, leaving her cargo here. I am pressing everything, and will try and save it. I will get everything away by 3 o'clock, with the exception of the cavalry. I will send the train to the Cadron with the Second Arkansas Infantry, and dismounted men of the Third. An infantry force is reported as going to cross at Red Fork, below the Cadron. Have I anything to fear from Shelby? I have scouts well out to keep the enemy busy as possible. I will hold the line of the Cadron till I hear from you. Duplicate this to General Steele.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. E. A. CARR.

LEWISBURG, *September 8, 1864—7 p. m.*

Lieutenant-Colonel Fuller, with scout of 130 men, met Cabell in cavalry and infantry force twenty miles from here, on Springfield and Dover road, en route for this place. Fuller was surrounded, but cut his way out; Lieutenants Wishard, Carr, Greene, and 30 men missing. Have sent word to Colonel Stephenson to start the train for Little Rock immediately. Have sent courier after the other scouting parties. I have everything in readiness to advance or retreat soon as scouts get in.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. E. A. CARR.

LEWISBURG, *September 8, 1864—8.40 p. m.*

Lieutenants Carr, Wishard, and Greene have come in, Greene slightly wounded. I do not think our loss will exceed 15 killed, wounded, and missing. There are three brigades of the enemy—Dockery's, Cabell's, and, I think, Fagan's. I presume the enemy will move to Springfield and try and cut us off from the Cadron. Our horses are pretty well used up; am giving them a few hours. If there are any horses to spare in Little Rock, I trust we can get some, as we need them badly.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. E. A. CARR.

SEPTEMBER 6–12, 1864.—Scouts in Boone and Howard Counties, Mo., with skirmishes (7th and 8th) in Boone County.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joseph B. Douglass, Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. EIGHTH MIL. DIST., ENROLLED MO. MILITIA,
Mexico, September 12, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I left this place on the 6th instant with 200 men of the First Iowa Cavalry, and divided them into three squads; marched in the direction of Boone County; camped

the first night fifteen miles in the edge of Boone County. Next morning divided my men again. Soon came upon a small rebel camp of about twenty-five men; routed them, they running in every direction. Camped that night at Columbia. Started out next morning early; traveled north some ten miles in two columns, thoroughly scouring the brush between my two columns, and right and left. Found Captain Todd with fifty men; had a skirmish with him, wounding some 4 or 5 of his men, killed 1 horse, captured 1, and some 14 guns (completely breaking up his command for the time being). I then turned west, went into Howard County. Camped for the night on the Moniteau Creek; sent that night to Fayette for Major Leonard to meet me that night; but he did not arrive until the next morning. On his arrival I learned for the first time that you had ordered troops to Glasgow, and not knowing the intention of the move, I determined to move the First Iowa Cavalry back in the Perche Hills. Ordered Major Leonard, after scouring the country around Rocheport (which was done in conjunction with the Iowa Cavalry), to move north and east of Fayette, thence west, and open communication with troops from Glasgow. I wrote you of my intended move, but learned on my arrival at headquarters last night (from Major Evans) that you had not received my letter. I was in the saddle constantly for six days, and the only regret that I have is that my scout was not more successful in killing these bands in place of routing them. Nothing will dispirit these marauders so much as surprising and cutting them to pieces. This must be done, and I am again ready to take the field for that purpose. I was exceedingly anxious to find Bill Anderson, and let some small bodies pass almost unnoticed, with a view of finding him. He was in the neighborhood of Rocheport, but the most of his men were divided out with other commands. The number of men in bodies of from twenty to eighty in Boone County number about 200. Other small bodies would swell the number to, say, 300 men. This does not include Holtzclaw, who, I learn, was in Howard County, or Frank Davis' band, and divers other bands in the surrounding counties.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. DOUGLASS,
Brigadier-General.

Brig. Gen. CLINTON B. FISK,
Saint Joseph, Mo.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1864.—Affair at Centralia, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

SAINT JOSEPH, MO., *September 7, 1864.*

The guerrillas stopped a freight train on North Missouri Railroad, near Centralia Station, early this morning, and stole four car-loads of horses therefrom. They are said to have captured 2 officers and 4 or 5 enlisted men. General Douglass has troops after them.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

SAINT CHARLES, *September 7, 1864.*
(Received 11.15 a. m.)

Hon. ISAAC H. STURGEON,
President:

One hundred bushwhackers took four cars of horses from our freight train, No. 4, at Centralia, this morning. Delayed train nearly three hours. No other damage done that I have heard of. The train has just arrived at Mexico.

Respectfully,

D. H. FITCH.

Just received. We still have no guard at Perruque bridge. I do not know what can be done to exterminate these devils. I hope a levy of $15,000 will be made on the sympathizers near Centralia to pay for these horses and at once collected. In an hour or sooner if you wish.

Respectfully,

ISAAC H. STURGEON,
President.

SEPTEMBER 7–11, 1864.—Expeditions to Grand Lake, Grand River, Lake Fausse Pointe, Bayou Pigeon, and Lake Natchez, La., with affair (8th) at Labadieville.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.
No. 2.—Maj. John H. Clybourn, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 3.—Capt. William J. Steele, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 4.—Capt. Dudley C. Wyman, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.
No. 5.—Acting Vol. Lieut. Ezra Leonard, U. S. Navy.

No. 1.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

HEADQUARTERS LA FOURCHE DISTRICT,
Thibodeaux, La., September 11, 1864.

Capt. FREDERIC SPEED,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Defenses of New Orleans:

CAPTAIN: Inclosed I send you copies of various reports which I have received, which will show the general something of what I am doing to keep advised of the movements of the enemy. The two men spoken of in Lieutenant Leonard's report are two spies I sent out some time since into the rebel camps. They have not yet returned, but I have no fear that they are taken. I do not believe that there are any torpedoes in Bayou Long or Belle River, from the fact that it would be very difficult to get them there, much more so than the points our boats go over every day, and because the man who reported it is inclined to make much capital out of a little and is not wholly reliable. But this is only my

opinion, and as I am not responsible for the boats or the lives of the men, I do not feel inclined to urge our friends of the navy over what they may consider dangerous ground.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding District.

[Indorsement.]

DEFENSES OF NEW ORLEANS,
September 13, 1864.

Approved and forwarded to department headquarters for information. The horses captured on Bayou Pigeon are those of our horses captured by the enemy from Gentilly's plantation a few days previous. The destruction of boats, &c., now going on in the lakes and bayous is in pursuance of instructions from these headquarters, and will be continued until all means of navigation are taken from the enemy. As to the torpedoes said to exist on Belle River (Lower Grand), that is a point which will soon be cleared up. As soon as the operations I have now under way are completed, Belle River and the whole peninsula of rebels and copperheads behind Lake Verret will receive marked attention.

T. W. SHERMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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THIBODEAUX, *September 9, 1864.*
(Received 9.10 a. m.)

A party of some forty rebels entered the village of Labadieville, nine miles from here, last night about 10 o'clock. Our patrol found them and brought in word immediately. Dispatched Major Conover, of the Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, with about sixty men, all I could raise without waiting to relieve the pickets. A dispatch from him at 4 o'clock this morning says that the rebels murdered Mr. Guerrin, who was the most active, energetic, and valuable Union friend we had in the whole district. They robbed the place of a large amount of goods, all they could carry away, and left. Major Conover is now in pursuit. The dismounting of the Eighteenth New York Cavalry necessitates me to ask for cavalry. I cannot protect the points, clear the country, or punish these rascals without.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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THIBODEAUX, *September 9, 1864.*
(Received 7.30 p. m.)

Major Conover has returned, bringing back 8 horses and 2 guns, left by the enemy. He pursued them through the woods belly deep to his horses until they reached a little bayou, name not known, where they took their skiffs and went into Lake Verret. They are the same party which surprised the scouts of the Sixteenth Indiana the other night, and are camped on Little Bayou Pigeon. While the guerril-

las, who are a portion of the Eighteenth Louisiana Infantry and move about in canoes, were absent from their camp yesterday on this expedition, one of our gun-boats entered Bayou Pigeon, recaptured 21 horses, 10 saddles, and 6 muskets, and destroyed a large number of small boats, and took 1 prisoner.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Maj. G. B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Reports of Maj. John H. Clybourn, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.

NAPOLEONVILLE, LA., *September 8, 1864.*

I have sent out Captain Steele with one battalion of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry to scour the country about Grand River, Bayou Natchez, Bayou Pigeon, and Grand Lake, to destroy all boats that may in any way aid the enemy as transportation across these streams. I will keep you informed of any engagements that may take place.

Respectfully,

JOHN H. CLYBOURN,
Major, Commanding Post.

Capt. B. B. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NAPOLEONVILLE, LA., *September 11, 1864.*

Captain Steele has returned from his expedition to Grand Lake. He captured 4 prisoners, 5 horses, and destroyed some 40 boats on the different lakes and bayous.

JOHN H. CLYBOURN,
Major, Commanding Post.

Capt. B. B. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. William J. Steele, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.

NAPOLEONVILLE, LA., *September 11, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the following as the result of the party sent out scouting from this place on the 7th instant in accordance with orders:

I left Napoleonville on the morning of the 7th instant with 150 men and six officers, marched by way of Paincourtville to Grand Bayou, crossed the bayou, and camped for the night on Madam Le Bar's plantation; started daylight next morning; moved up bayou to saw-mill with intention of crossing swamp to upper side of Lake Natchez, thus saving distance of twenty-five miles, but found it impossible, the mud

being so stiff that horses could scarcely move. I then went the only passable road up Grand Bayou, and struck the Mississippi at Mr. Recard's plantation, about eight miles this side of Bayou Goula; took nooning at Recard's, and reached Plaquemine just at dark; drew forage and rations and started at daybreak 9th instant; marched along Bayou Plaquemine to Mr. Roan's plantation on Bayou Sorrel, destroying some twenty flat-boats, capable of crossing from four to forty horses, and some forty or fifty pirogues, skiffs, and small boats. I also destroyed a boat load of smugglers' goods, consisting of one barrel of rasps, one keg of files, and a quantity of stationery; could find no owner for it. Captured 7 horses ready saddled; they belonged to bushwhackers, who upon our approach saw no way of escaping, left their horses and hid in the woods, where it was impossible to find them on account of the underbrush. On Roan's plantation I captured 4 prisoners without arms and 2 horses with equipments. They belonged to the same party that attacked the Sixteenth Indiana, and were with the party that had the captured horses, when the gun-boat suddenly came upon them at Micheltre's plantation, at the mouth of Bayou Pigeon, and recaptured the horses and equipments. The men all took the woods and escaped, except the few that I came across and captured. There is no force of the enemy this side of Bayou Plaquemine, Bayou Sorrel, Bayou Pigeon, or Grand Bayou, more than a few bushwhackers, which a force of twenty-five men could any time master. There is now no way of crossing the above-named bayous, except by building new rafts or swimming, which may be done at several points. Learned that a party that captured the Sixteenth Indiana had crossed into the State with their prisoners; also that there were two regiments of the enemy in the neighborhood of Franklin and the Teche, the First and Fourth Louisiana Infantry. Thinking it useless to proceed farther I returned, arriving in Plaquemine the same night; left Plaquemine on the morning of the 10th; camped seven miles from Donaldsonville, and arrived at Napoleonville about noon of the 11th instant, having marched a distance of 175 miles, meeting with no opposition whatever.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. STEELE,
Captain Company C, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.

Brigadier-General CAMERON,
Commanding District of La Fourche.

No. 4.

Report of Capt. Dudley C. Wyman, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.

BRASHEAR CITY, *September 9, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the following as the result of the expedition which left here Wednesday evening:

I took my command on board the gun-boat 41 at sundown and proceeded to Grand Lake, where the command was transferred to 49. We remained at anchor until daylight, when we weighed anchor and proceeded to Pigeon Bayou. Our entrance was effected easily, considering the snags and the narrowness of the channel. Our progress was slow, as the boat was unwieldy and the bayou narrow and far from

being straight. We proceeded with caution, and after several hours' labor arrived at the mouth of Grand River. On rounding a bend in the bayou a boat with four men in it was discovered crossing the bayou; one of the men was swimming a horse. I instantly ordered my men on the lookout to fire, and passed the word to the captain of the boat to man the guns. At the first shot from the bow guns the men in the boat jumped overboard, swam to the shore, and took to the woods. Our boat landed as soon as possible, and my force being small it was deemed prudent not to pursue. On landing, pickets were stationed and a detail sent to take on board the horses left by the rebels. They were mostly U. S. horses, supposed to have been captured by them at Napoleonville. We succeeded in bringing them on board, twenty in all, with equipments for ten. We captured one man, J. B. Brogdon, Fourth Louisiana Cavalry, from whom we learned that the party who escaped consisted of a sergeant and fifteen men, and were on their way to join their regiment at Franklin. I also took on board two hogsheads of sugar and three barrels of molasses; also eight guns. We afterward proceeded up to Mr. Micheltre's plantation, where I found a man, named S. J. Fount, having the appearance of a smuggler, and as he could give no account of himself I had him arrested and taken on board. Finding the snags numerous and the depth of the water insufficient for the boat, we succeeded with some trouble in turning and started immediately for Grand Lake. Our progress was slow for reasons given, and after several hours' hard work, breaking through what seemed to be forests, we reached the mouth of the bayou at 7 o'clock minus some of our upper works. In attempting to run out in the darkness the boat got aground, and after fruitless efforts to get off we were forced to remain all night. In the morning the 41 was seen coming out of the Atchafalaya, and we signaled to her. She assisted us out of the bayou and we steamed toward Brashear. Near the entrance of Grand Lake we met the 43, and in company with her we went to Brashear. After landing I marched the command to quarters.

I have the honor to be, yours, &c.,

DUDLEY C. WYMAN,
Captain, Company G, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.

Colonel HARRIS.

No. 5.

Reports of Actg. Vol. Lieut. Ezra Leonard, U. S. Navy.

BRASHEAR CITY, *September 7, 1864.*

SIR: A gun-boat is now exploring Lake Fausse Pointe and Grand Lake. The boat which leaves to night goes through Bayou Pigeon as far as Grand River. I understand that torpedoes have been placed in Grand River and Bayou Long, and do not think it prudent to send a gun boat through either to reach Lake Natchez. I will send for those two men on Friday.

Very respectfully,

E. LEONARD,
Lieutenant, Commanding Naval Forces.

Brigadier-General CAMERON.

BRASHEAR CITY, LA., *September 8, 1864.*

SIR: The gun-boat Carrabasset destroyed in Lake Fausse Pointe yesterday a large flat-boat, sixty feet long and substantially built, with iron knees, &c., and a lot of skiffs. The gun-boat fired into the enemy's pickets and killed 4 horses.

The Carrabasset is now in Bayou Pigeon with sixty soldiers on board.

Very respectfully,

EZRA LEONARD,
Lieutenant, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. R. A. CAMERON,
Commanding District.

U. S. S. CARRABASSET,
Berwick Bay, September 9, 1864.

SIR: The gun-boat I sent into Bayou Chene for those two scouts has returned without them. They were to be there at 9 a. m. I ordered the boat to remain until noon and blow the whistle often. They were furnished with a pirogue. The boat from Bayou Pigeon reports that of the seventy-seven rebels in the attack on Napoleonville, fifteen crossed over to Franklin with the prisoners; the remainder returned to the La Fourche District. The boat reached there just as a party was crossing thirty horses, of which number she captured 21. The enemy have a camp on Lake Natchez where there is only two feet and a half of water at present. Captain Washburne will be here again in a day or two and then I shall be glad to go through Bayou Long and Belle River, but I cannot take the responsibility of sending a boat as I got my information about the torpedoes from Captain W. himself. Company G, Eleventh Wisconsin Veteran Volunteers, Capt. Dudley C. Wyman, accompanied the boat to Bayou Pigeon and rendered efficient service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EZRA LEONARD,
Actg. Vol. Lieut., U. S. Navy, Comdg. Naval Force pro tempore.

Brig. Gen. R. A. CAMERON,
Commanding District.

P. S.—The provost-marshal will send the prisoner.

Respectfully,

E. L.

SEPTEMBER 8, 1864.—Skirmishes near Hornersville and Gayoso, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Lieut. Col. Hiram M. Hiller, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 2.—Capt. James W. Edwards, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Hiram M. Hiller, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., *September 12, 1864.*

Have just heard from the forces I sent out under Captains McClanahan and Edwards. They came upon the forces of Colonel Clark and Major Parrott in Dunklin County, and drove them out of the State; killed 7 of them, captured 2 prisoners, and a number of horses and

arms. Lieutenant Miller, Company D, Second Missouri State Militia, severely wounded in the neck. No other casualties on our side. A part of my forces are still out. Will forward you the official report as soon as they return.

H. M. HILLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

General EWING.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., *September 12, 1864.*

Captain McClanahan, whom I sent in command of the forces into Dunklin County, reports that he found Major Parrott with 200 men encamped near the Arkansas line, four miles below Hornersville, and attacked him last Thursday evening; he killed 13 of the rebels and captured 5, and took 20 horses and a number of arms. The next day Captain Edwards came upon a part of the same rebel force, and killed 7 and captured 2, as previously reported. No loss on our side.

H. M. HILLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

General EWING.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. James W. Edwards, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

NEW MADRID, *September 12, 1864.*

I left you on Thursday, the 8th instant, and proceeded toward Gayoso. Ran into a squad of guerrillas soon after I crossed the swamp and killed 3 and wounded 1; the rest scattered in the cane and swamp. We were fired into by a squad of about forty under Colonel Clark from across Pemiscot Bayou. We returned the fire, killing 4, wounding 1, and took 2 prisoners. Lieutenant Miller was shot through the neck here, which was our only loss. I should have crossed the bayou and followed them if they had not scattered and Lieutenant Miller had not been so badly wounded. They scattered in every direction going toward Little Run Swamp. We captured 5 horses and a few stand of arms. Had 3 horses shot. Saw nothing of any guerrillas Friday and we arrived here Saturday evening completely tired out. I think Colonel Clark has about played out and will not be able to do us any more damage very soon.

Respectfully,

J. W. EDWARDS,
Captain, &c.

Captain MCCLANAHAN,
Commanding Expedition, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1864.—Attack on Steamer J. D. Perry, at Clarendon, Ark.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, September 9, 1864—7 p. m.

GENERAL: Steamer J. D. Perry, with some of General Mower's command, was to-day fired into by about 100 men just below Clarendon, from Clarendon side. I hope you will not forget my need of troops

here. I have only part of a cavalry regiment (eight companies of Eleventh Missouri) and eight of the Twelfth Michigan. Am worried every hour for lack of means to do the work. The transportation and officers' baggage of the Twelfth Michigan have already gone to Brownsville.

Very respectfully,

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. F. STEELE,
Little Rock.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1864.—Affair on the Warrensburg road, near Warrensburg, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. Bazel F. Lazear, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND SUB-DISTRICT,
In the Field, September 13, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report for the information of the general commanding that since my report of the 10th Lieutenant Teel returned from his foot scout near Dover, and reports no guerrillas in that vicinity after Major Mullins went east. Lieutenant Augustine reports that on the 9th he came upon a party of four on the Warrensburg road just as they had completed robbing the Warrensburg mail. In the chase after them he captured one of their horses and thinks one of the party was wounded. The main body are now in the western part of La Fayette County. Captain Meredith is also in that direction with 100 men. On the 15th I will move east to Republican Church, where my command will concentrate to receive rations. I have nothing later from Saline than my last report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. LAZEAR,
Lieut. Col. First Cav. Mo. State Militia, Commanding.

Capt. J. H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Warrensburg, Mo.

SEPTEMBER 9–11, 1864.—Expedition from Pine Bluff toward Monticello, Ark., with skirmishes near Monticello (10th) and at Brewer's Lane (11th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Powell Clayton, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Maj. Thomas W. Scudder, Fifth Kansas Cavalry.
No. 3.—Capt. John W. Lewis, Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army.

No. 1.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Powell Clayton, U. S. Army.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *September 11, 1864—5.45 p. m.*

Colonel Erskine, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, with 300 men, left here on the morning of the 9th at daylight, drove in the pickets at Monticello early the next morning, captured 3 prisoners, ascertained

positively that there are now three brigades of infantry at Monticello, namely, Parsons', Hawthorn's, and Dockery's, numbering between 3,000 and 4,000 men, and one battery of artillery—two 12-pounders and four 6-pounders. Prisoners captured said 7,000 cavalry and 7,000 infantry, under Generals Walker and Prince Polignac, were on their way to Monticello from Louisiana, and that the cavalry was already on Bayou Bartholomew, twenty-three miles from Monticello; ascertained positively that there are no troops at Princeton, except about 150 cavalry. Churchhill's division of infantry left Princeton on the morning of the 9th for Camden 2,500 strong, mostly conscripts and poorly armed. All information gathered from deserters say that Price has from 8,000 to 15,000 men poorly mounted and not very well armed, with sixteen pieces of artillery. He was also reported to have a large amount of arms and ammunition for arming and equipping recruits. All goes to show that he has gone on his way to Missouri. Was attacked to-day about twenty miles out on the Warren road by Lane's brigade, numbering about 1,000 men. After a severe fight of about an hour's duration succeeded in cutting the way through; supposed to have killed 20 or 30 rebels and took 8 prisoners. Loss to ourselves about 20 men. A rebel lieutenant, who was severely wounded and captured, said that we were attacked by Lane's brigade just from Louisiana, that they were encamped twenty miles from Monticello, where we drove in their pickets, and were sent for to intercept us. This confirmed reports of prisoners previously captured that there were troops on the way from Louisiana to Monticello.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PINE BLUFF, *September 12, 1864.*

No news from the enemy to-day. In the skirmish yesterday, seventeen miles from here, we lost 2 men killed, 5 wounded, and 2 officers and 11 men missing.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Captain DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Thomas W. Scudder, Fifth Kansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH KANSAS CAVALRY,
September 12, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command (First Indiana and Fifth Kansas Cavalry) in the late expedition toward Monticello:

I reported at headquarters September 9 at 4 a. m. with sixty men of the Fifth Kansas and one gun from the First Indiana. Owing to some mistake in the detail the First Indiana did not report until we were some seven miles out on the lower road. Captain Kyler then came up with thirty men. I marched during the day in the center, camped with the rest at the cross-roads, about fourteen miles from Monticello. That

night detailed Lieutenant Wood with fifteen men, who reported to you at 3 a. m. for special service. Lieutenant Templeton with other details, I believe, assumed command, although Lieutenant Wood was the ranking officer. The result of their reconnaissance has been already reported to you by Lieutenants Wood and Templeton. September 10, marched in advance in the direction of Mount Elba; camped at night near the Mount Elba and Pine Bluff road. September 11, detailed eight men to report to you for a scout in direction of the crossing of Saline River. Marched at sunrise in the rear. The men who went to the crossing rejoined me near Cheney's Store, on the Pine Bluff road, near McGhee's plantation. Detached by your order Lieutenant Jenkins and Company G, Fifth Kansas, to report to you for scout toward the fords of the Saline River above Mount Elba. About eighteen miles from Pine Bluff heard sharp firing in front. Moved up, and found the advance had already driven the enemy. Fell back to my position in the rear. Had marched but a short distance when firing commenced upon the right flank a little ahead of me. The enemy were again repulsed. The column moved on a little way, when we were attacked almost simultaneously in flank and rear. The men were for a time thrown in confusion. I finally succeeded in rallying them; held the enemy in check for a time. Captain Kyler, First Indiana, acting as extreme rear guard, was cut off from the main body, but by sharp fighting, and making a short detour to the left, rejoined me. Here we had a severe contest for our howitzer; the artillerymen abandoned it, with the exception of the sergeant in command; the firing was heavy and continuous. At this juncture Lieutenant Jenkins, who had heard the firing and pushed with all speed toward us, came up the road in the enemy's rear, and gallantly charging them, cut his way through, with the loss of 1 man severely wounded. I finally succeeded, gallantly assisted by Lieutenant Quinn, Thirteenth Illinois, in getting the gun away and bringing it safely to town. From this point until the Warren cross-roads were reached, a distance of four miles, I was hotly engaged in repelling successive charges of the enemy upon our rear. Reached the cross-roads and found you, colonel, in line of battle, greatly to my relief. By your order formed upon the right. After awaiting the appearance of the enemy for some time, with the remainder I marched toward town. As to the nature of the fighting, the number of the enemy, &c., it is unnecessary for me to speak, you, colonel, having a better knowledge of that than any other person. From the nature of the attack (three sides at once), the men at first were terribly confused, but after it had finally developed itself they did nobly.

In conclusion, I cannot speak too highly of the valuable aid rendered me by Lieutenant Quinn, Thirteenth Illinois; Lieutenant Bonde, Seventh Missouri; Captain Kyler, First Indiana, and Lieutenants Jenkins, Wood, and Stevenson, Fifth Kansas Cavalry. The sergeant commanding the howitzer, for his behavior in standing bravely by his gun when nearly all the men deserted him, if otherwise capable, I heartily recommend through you to the Governor of his State for promotion.

I have to report the following list of casualties: Fifth Kansas—Killed, 1; wounded, 4; missing, 1; total, 6. First Indiana—Wounded and left, 4; missing, 1; total, 5; grand total, 11.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. W. SCUDDER,
Major Fifth Kansas Cavalry, Commanding.

Colonel ERSKINE,
Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, Commanding Late Expedition.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. John W. Lewis, Assistant Adjutant-General, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS,
Camden, September 13, 1864.

GENERAL: I am instructed by Major-General Magruder to inform you that reliable information has been received that 8,000 Federal troops have gone up White River to re-enforce General Steele. A party of 500 of the enemy advanced toward Monticello; were forced by us to retire, taking the direction of Pine Bluff; were pursued by Colonel Crump, commanding a regiment of Texas cavalry of Major-General Wharton's command and driven to within six miles of Pine Bluff, resulting in the killing of 6 of the enemy and wounding 12. Three were wounded and none killed on our side.*

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. W. LEWIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. Gen. STERLING PRICE,
Commanding, &c.

SEPTEMBER 9–12, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Pike, La., to the Pearl River.

Report of Lieut. Col. Alfred G. Hall, Seventy-fourth U. S. Colored Troops.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Pike, La., September 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the results of the expedition up Pearl River, made in conformity to orders from the commanding general:

I left Fort Pike at 9 a. m. September 10, 1864, on the steamer J. D. Swain with a force of 200 men. I proceeded up West Pearl River to a point called Deer Island Landing, where I landed my men at 11.15 a. m. and marched along the road leading from the landing into the country. At 12.10 a. m. I reached a house formerly occupied by John Porter; the house is now deserted. At 12.45 I reached the house of Widow Joyner. I found no one there but women and children. I was informed by Mrs. Joyner that three horsemen had passed her house that morning at about 10 o'clock riding toward the landing, armed with shotguns and pistols, probably a squad of the fellows we were after, en route to warn their friends of our approach, having seen the smoke of the steamer as she came up the river. I was unable to gain any other information of the jayhawkers at this place. The women stated that those that had passed the house that morning were the first they had seen for months. I resumed march at 1.25 p. m., sending one-half of my force, under Lieutenants Gallagher and Morrison, back half a mile over the road I had just come, to take a branch road to go to the house of a man named Sadler, while I with the remainder of the men kept on with the intention of visiting the place of a man named Snyder. I reached the house of Mrs. Mitchell; no one to be seen but women and children. I could get no information there; they say they know nothing of the rebel

* Some irrelevant matter omitted.

cavalry. Left Mrs. Mitchell's at 1.35 p. m. There were two roads from here, and through mistake of the guide I took the wrong road. The guide discovered his mistake after marching about one mile and took the shortest way across the country to gain the right road. After marching several miles I found myself on the right road about one-fourth of a mile from Mitchell's. The road I should have taken runs nearly at right angles with the one I took. The other party gave the signal that they had reached Sadler's and I concluded to join them instead of going to Snyder's; I arrived at Sadler's at 2.15 p. m. I was unable to learn anything definite of the cavalry. A party of them had been there three days before and searched the house for rebel deserters. There was no one at home at the time but two women, one an invalid. They could not tell the number of men in the party. I obtained horses at Sadler's and accompanied by my adjutant proceeded to the house of Snyder, about two miles from Sadler's.

From information gained there and elsewhere I concluded that if I should run up East Pearl or Pearl River proper I should be able to find the party of cavalry or hear of them in the vicinity of Gainesville. I re-embarked and started for East Pearl at 5.30 p. m. I ran up as far as Pearlington, and laid off at that place till 5.30 a. m. the 12th; proceeded to a bluff about two miles and a half above Pearlington. I landed and sent a party under Lieutenant Sternes to Homer's Bridge, about three miles from the landing. He returned at 8 a. m., reporting no signs of the enemy. I landed again near Napoleon, marched through the town, scouting the country back of it. I found nothing of the cavalry at this place, and no news of them. The country here is nearly deserted. I was informed here that the news of our coming was far ahead of us, as they could see our steamer for a number of miles down the river. I proceeded from this point to Gainesville, fifteen miles above Pearlington, and here learned that five of the rebel cavalry had been there the day previous. At Gainesville one man, William Marsen, was brought in by the guard. He claims to be a paroled prisoner; but I have good evidence that he is connected with them, and has been employed in driving cattle for the commissary department, rebel army. There are probably a number of rebel cavalry at Honey Island, about nine miles from Gainesville; but with our steamer it was useless to attempt their capture, our approach being known to them hours before, and unless they choose to fight us they could easily avoid us. I would respectfully suggest that in any future expedition the troops be landed at some point near the fort on the rebel side and marched through the country, mounting if needs be. Although unsuccessful in overtaking any rebel force, the inhabitants expressed the desire that our troops come often.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED G. HALL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. F. SPEED,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Defenses of New Orleans.

[First indorsement.]

DEFENSES OF NEW ORLEANS,
September 14, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to department headquarters.

This expedition was authorized on receiving a telegram from Colonel Hall, of which inclosed is a copy. Instead of going direct to Pearl

River Island, as he suggested in his telegram, he appears to have gone up West Pearl River and landed his force on the main or the west side. No wonder that he was unsuccessful, if the enemy was, as he stated, on Pearl River Island. It is not easy to see how a small body of jayhawkers would have remained on Pearl River Island on seeing our steamer moving about all day on the Lower West Pearl River. Of the management of the expedition, as I understand it, I disapprove.

T. W. SHERMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
New Orleans, September 16, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army, through headquarters Military Division of the West Mississippi, for information.

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

FORT PIKE, *September 10, 1864.*

F. SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Fifteen miles from here, at Pearl River Island, are 125 jayhawkers. They killed 1 citizen, a Union man, outright. They can be gotten at in two ways—one by steamer through East Pearl River, another by Bayou Macomb.

Respectfully,

ALFRED G. HALL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

SEPTEMBER 9–12, 1864.—Scout from Lewisburg to Norristown and Russellville, Ark., with skirmishes.

Report of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
September 12, 1864.

Captain Clear, Company D, Third Arkansas Cavalry, returned this p. m. He left Lewisburg on the morning of the 9th instant; he went to Norristown and Russellville, charging into both places, killing 2 rebels near Russellville; he reports Price's force to be at least 15,000 men and 18 pieces of artillery, all the men mounted, with the exception of 200, who act as train guards. Price left Dover Saturday a. m. going toward Burrowsville for the avowed purpose of going to Missouri. Captain Clear started on scout with thirty-eight men, returning with fifteen. The remainder are in the brush and will remain till relieved. The horses gave out before reaching the Cadron. Hiding their horse equipments, the party came through on foot, swimming the Cadron eight miles above the ferry-crossing. Captain Clear and five of his men came down on the Chippewa from the Palarm, the other ten

coming through by land. By letter received this p. m. from Lewisburg, I learn that Gordon's regiment left there Saturday a. m., stating that they were to join Shelby, who was to cut the communications of and starve the forces out of Little Rock.

Respectfully,

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, &c.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Little Rock.

SEPTEMBER 9-14, 1864.—Scout from Helena to Alligator Bayou, Ark.

Report of Lieut. Alexander F. Rice, Sixtieth U. S. Colored Troops.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY D,
Helena, Ark., September 15, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to transmit the following report of a five days' scout under my command, composed of twenty men of the Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry:

Started from here on the 9th; marched to Thomas' Station, five miles from the mouth Saint Francis River; camped until the next evening. Sent out squads frequently during the day; captured 1 man, William Bailess, and 2 horses. Went from there to Mrs. Rodgers, some fifteen miles. Broke camp at 8 o'clock next morning and went to Alligator Bayou. Captured 1 man and horse on the way. Camped until next evening; captured 2 men while there, also a horse. The command then parted. A portion, mounted, crossed over to Thomas' Station. The rest came down the river in skiffs. Camped until the morning of the 14th. Captured while there 5 mules and 2 horses, also 1 prisoner and 1 carbine. The names of the prisoners are as follows: William Bailess, and Peter Nance, Captain Briscoe's company, Dobbin's regiment; James Copelin and Urbin Day, Captain Coates' company, Dobbin's regiment; Joseph A. Echles, adjutant, Sixth Texas Cavalry.

A. F. RICE,
Second Lieut. Co. E, 60th U. S. Colored Infty., Comdg. Scout.

Lieut. F. E. SNOW,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1864.—Skirmish near Roanoke, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

No. 2.—Maj. Austin A. King, jr., Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

SAINT JOSEPH, *September 11, 1864.*

The detachment sent out from Glasgow yesterday under Major King, Sixth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, attacked Holtzclaw's band, numbering sixty, just east of Roanoke, in Howard County, and

gave him a running fight of five miles. Six of the villains were killed, several of their horses and a large number of shotguns and revolvers were captured. In the chase 2 of our men were wounded, 1 severely. The First Iowa are stirring up the bushwhackers in Boone.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Saint Louis.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Austin A. King, jr., Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

FAYETTE, *September 11, 1864.*

I came upon Holtzclaw's command yesterday east of Roanoke, in Howard County. They numbered about sixty men. They did not stand long against my advance under command of Captain Turner, who charged them as soon as he came upon them. A running fight of five miles ensued, in which we killed 6 and wounded several men, captured 6 horses, and at least a dozen shotguns, with a loss of 2 of my men wounded, 1 severely. I will move again to-morrow, my horses being now badly run down.

AUSTIN A. KING, JR.,
Major, &c.

General FISK.

ADDENDA.

SAINT JOSEPH, *September 11, 1864.*

Major KING,
Comdg. Sixth Cav. Mo. State Militia, in the Field, Glasgow:

I congratulate you on the good beginning of the bushwhacking campaign. Strike with vigor and determination. Take no prisoners. We have enough of that sort on hand now. Pursue and kill. I have two of Holtzclaw's men, just captured. They state that he camps, when in Howard County, in the rear of old man Hackley's farm, not far from Fayette. Make a dash in there at night and get him if possible. Let a detachment secretly watch his mother's residence. He is home almost daily, and his sisters are great comforters of the bushwhackers. Old man Hackley has a son in the brush. I shall soon send out of the district the bushwhacking families. Go ahead and give us a good report.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1864.—Skirmish near Pisgah, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 2.—Maj. George W. Kelly, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

WARRENSBURG, MO., *September 11, 1864.*

Lieutenant Kerr, with a detachment of Fourth Missouri State Militia, had a skirmish with sixty guerrillas near Pisgah, Cooper County, yes-

terday. Four guerrillas killed and several wounded. No loss on our side reported. The guerrillas were commanded by Taylor, a new man on south side of the river.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Major-General ROSECRANS.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. George W. Kelly, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

BOONVILLE, *September 11, 1864.*

Lieutenant Kerr, with detachment Fourth Missouri State Militia, had a skirmish with sixty guerrillas, under Captain Taylor, some five miles northeast of Pisgah yesterday evening, killing 4 and wounding several; our horses being fatigued was all that saved the entire band from being broken.

G. W. KELLY,
Major, &c.

Capt. J. H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1864.—Skirmish at Hodge's Plantation, La.

Report of Col. Hasbrouck Davis, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.

DONALDSONVILLE, *September 13, 1864.*
(Received 5.20 p. m.)

Hodge's plantation, on the other side of the river, is in Colonel Logan's command. I have shown him your dispatch. He says the rebels attacked the plantation Sunday and were repulsed with loss of 1 killed and 3 wounded. Some of his men guarded the place last night and will do so again to-night.

H. DAVIS,
Colonel Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, Commanding Post.

Maj. G. B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 11–16, 1864.—Operations in Monroe and Ralls Counties, Mo.

Report of Capt. John D. Meredith, Thirty-ninth Missouri Infantry.

CAMP KUTZNER, *September 17, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to Special Orders, No. [4], dated Hannibal, Mo., September 11, 1864, from Col. Ed. A. Kutzner, commanding Thirty-ninth Regiment Infantry, Missouri Volunteers, I left camp at Hannibal about 7 p. m. of the 11th instant with twenty-five men of my company on the hunt for a band of guerrillas who were said to be com-

mitting depredations in the neighborhood of Sidney, Ralls County, Mo. After leaving camp, I moved my command out on the Centreville road in the direction of West Ely, and after having marched eight or ten miles, I proceeded, in compliance with the provisions of the above-mentioned order, to mount my men upon the horses of disloyal owners. When within a mile or two of West Ely I detached a sergeant, with four men, to enter town by a roundabout road in an opposite direction from that in which I was moving, with instructions to stop at the house of one Doctor Hays, in the edge of town, and get one of his horses. Upon reaching the house, the sergeant sent the men into a pasture to catch the horse, himself remaining mounted to patrol the road. While so doing two men sprang from behind the cover of a fence and commanded him to halt, at the same time cocking their guns. Instead of complying the sergeant drew down his piece to fire on them, but his horse shying and his saddle turning, he was thrown to the ground, and as he fell the guerrillas jumped the fence and ran to the brush. About this time our men in the pasture discovered a squad of eight or ten men riding up an adjoining lane, who, as the word "halt" was given, wheeled their horses and took to the brush. This occurred about 3 a. m. of the 12th, and it being too dark to follow them when the column came up, I called a halt and waited for daylight, when I moved forward in the direction of Sidney. Near this place we were joined by Lieutenant Weldy, with twenty-five men of Company E, and with the whole force followed the bushwhackers into Monroe County, thoroughly scouring the woods and brush on Indian Creek and Salt River to Florida, but without success.

At Florida I learned of the skirmish at Paris, and that an attack was anticipated on the place from Frank Davis (a noted guerrilla) with 240 men; hearing which I deemed it my duty to move forward to the assistance of the town, which I did as rapidly as possible, arriving there on the afternoon of 13th instant. During the night the town was further re-enforced by a detachment of fifty men of the First Iowa Cavalry, under command of Lieutenant Dow. Next morning no attack having been made, and still hearing of the guerrillas in considerable force on the Middle Fork of Salt River, in the vicinity of Madison (after consultation with the several officers), it was thought best to make a strong scout in search of them. At the request of Captain Fowkes, commanding Enrolled Missouri Militia of Monroe County, and Lieutenant Dow, of the First Iowa Cavalry, I assumed command of the expedition (which consisted of fifty men of the First Iowa Cavalry, under Lieutenant Dow, fifty men of the detailed Enrolled Missouri Militia, under Captain Fowkes, and the fifty men under my command) and started on the hunt. About noon of the 14th our advance guard, part of the Iowa cavalry, came upon a squad of eight or ten of the guerrillas at the house of a man named Garnett (a notorious rebel, who has a son in the brush) and a skirmish ensued, in which 2 of the guerrillas were killed, the rest escaping to the brush. As this was the second or third time Federal troops had been fired upon from this house, and as it was well known as a rendezvous and harboring place for the guerrillas and horse thieves, I ordered the house burned, as a warning to the numerous families in that section who are aiding, encouraging, and feeding bushwhackers. After moving forward from this place a few miles I divided the command, and scouted down on both sides of the Middle Fork to within seven miles of Paris, where I turned the command over to Captain Fowkes (except my original command) and returned to Paris, reporting for orders to Maj. A. V. E. Johnston, of the Thirty-

ninth Infantry, Missouri Volunteers, who had that day arrived and taken command of the place. By his orders I started to return to camp at Hannibal, scouting through the Salt River Hills between Santa Fé and Florida in Monroe County, to the neighborhood of Newport, Ralls County, thence down Salt River to Cincinnati, thence by way of Sidney to camp Kutzner, where I arrived on the evening of the 16th instant, with my command all safe and sound.

During the whole route I found the country in a state of turmoil and terror, and that it is utterly impossible for a Union man to remain at home with any sense of security.

I have the honor to be, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

JNO. D. MEREDITH,
Captain Company D, Thirty-ninth Missouri Regiment.

Lieut. T. C. TRIPLER,
Adjutant Thirty-ninth Infantry, Missouri Volunteers.

SEPTEMBER 11–18, 1864.—Scouts in Moniteau and Morgan Counties, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Albert Muntzel, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAMP AT BIG PINEY, MO., *September 18, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of a scout made by twelve men of this company during the last week:

It being reported by two men of the company that a squad of guerrillas was seen three or four miles from this camp on the 11th of this month, I ordered fifteen men out after them. Three of them came back to camp the following morning. The remaining twelve returned to camp last night. They give the following history of the scout:

They got on the trail of these guerrillas near the place where they were seen and pursued them to Tuscumbia, the guerrillas reaching this place at night and the scout the following morning. Captain Brown, commanding a company at Tuscumbia, informed them that he killed 2 of these guerrillas when they came up to the river, and 4 horses. The gang then scattered in all directions. The scout, learning at Tuscumbia that the rebels had just killed 7 of our men near Mount Pleasant, went on to that place. Not finding the rebels there they moved on in the direction of Tipton, in Moniteau County. When seven miles from High Point, between High Point and Tipton, they suddenly came on a small squad of guerrillas, killed 2, and captured 1 horse, which they brought into camp. They then scouted thoroughly through Moniteau and Morgan Counties, but, meeting with no further success, they returned to camp. They found the country in an awful state of excitement. Union men dare not stay at home, and none sleeping in their houses at night except rebels and their sympathizers, and unless something is done soon Union men must leave the State or be murdered. Our troops are chiefly kept in the smaller towns, while the rebels are roaming at large and devastating the country.

I have the honor to remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT MUNTZEL,
First Lieut., Comdg. Co. F, Fifth Cav. Missouri State Militia.

Lieut. Col. JOSEPH A. EPPSTEIN,
Comdg. Fifth Cav. Mo. State Mil., Rolla, Mo.

SEPTEMBER 11–25, 1864.—Operations in the Cherokee Nation, Ind. Ter., with actions at Hay Station, near Fort Gibson (16th), and at Cabin Creek and Pryor's Creek, Ind. Ter. (19th).

REPORTS:

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Kansas.
No. 2.—Maj. Gen. George Sykes, U. S. Army, commanding District of South Kansas.
No. 3.—Col. James M. Williams, Seventy-ninth U. S. Colored Troops.
No. 4.—Capt. James H. Bruce, Second Indian Home Guard.
No. 5.—Maj. John A. Foreman, Third Indian Home Guard.
No. 6.—Maj. Henry Hopkins, Second Kansas Cavalry.
No. 7.—Capt. Edgar A. Barker, Second Kansas Cavalry.
No. 8.—Col. Charles R. Jennison, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry.
No. 9.—Capt. Curtis Johnson, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry.
No. 10.—Maj. Gen. Samuel B. Maxey, C. S. Army, commanding District of Indian Territory.
No. 11.—Brig. Gen. Douglas H. Cooper, C. S. Army, commanding Indian Division.
No. 12.—Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, C. S. Army, commanding First Indian Brigade.
No. 13.—Brig. Gen. Richard M. Gano, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.
No. 14.—Congratulatory Orders.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Kansas.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, *September 20, 1864.*

The further advance of rebels toward our department is attested by the taking of a train by 1,500 of Stand Watie's men at Cabin Creek, sixty miles this side of Fort Gibson. Two hundred and two wagons, five ambulances, forty artillery horses, and 1,253 mules were captured. General Thayer, commanding that district, recently informed me his communication with his commander (General Steele) was cut off, which corroborates the report that forces had also crossed between Little Rock and Fort Smith.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of the Missouri.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Gen. George Sykes, U. S. Army, commanding District of South Kansas.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SOUTH KANSAS,
September 25, 1864.

SIR: I forward for the information of the major-general commanding reports of the recent disaster at Cabin Creek:

From the letters of Major Foreman and Colonel Williams it appears that the rebels have retired toward Arkansas, probably hastened by the force under the latter officer. In view of these facts I do not appre-

hend an immediate attack on Fort Scott, and from the accounts of Major Ross, district inspector, just from that post, it is doubtful whether Price is at Cane Hill. Unless the general has given instructions about the train which is to leave Fort Scott on Wednesday next, I think it can reach the supporting force from Fort Gibson without molestation, and had therefore better be permitted to start. Ten companies, 300 stragglers, and a section of artillery will accompany it. I desire a telegraphic reply in order that I may give such instructions by to-morrow's mail to Colonel Jennison as may seem proper.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. SYKES,
Major-General, Commanding.

Major CHARLOT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department Headquarters.

No. 3.

Report of Col. James M. Williams, Seventy-ninth U. S. Colored Troops.

HEADQUARTERS TROOPS IN THE FIELD,
Pryor's Creek, September 20, 1864.

I arrived here at 11 a. m. yesterday, and met the advance of Gano and Stand Watie's command, consisting of 2,300 men with six pieces. The enemy had captured the train and post at Cabin Creek in the morning, and were returning with their booty (this information is from a prisoner). My command (all infantry and artillery) was completely exhausted, having marched eighty-two miles in the last forty-six hours, carrying their knapsacks. I immediately formed my line and prepared to give battle. Skirmishing was kept up until 4.30 p. m., when the enemy's line came within range of my Parrott guns, and I soon drove them back and continued skirmishing until dusk, and bivouacked in line of battle on the field. This morning the enemy has disappeared, it is supposed across the Verdigris. Had my troops been fresh I think I could have recaptured the train; as it was, I was unable to move without rest. Major Foreman will come on to Neosho to guard the other train, which please forward at once as we need it very much. I shall fall back to Flat Rock to-day, unless I get further information of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

J. M. WILLIAMS,
Colonel, Commanding Troops in the Field.

Col. C. W. BLAIR.

No. 4.

Report of Capt. James H. Bruce, Second Indian Home Guard.

MACKEY'S LICK, C. N., *September 14, 1864.*

SIR: This morning about 7 a. m. a large body of rebels, number not known, came within seven miles of this place and killed 1 nigger and ran one of Company F into camp. The rebels came from the west on

the 13th. Yesterday my scouts were over the Arkansas River and discovered a rebel force at John Drew's Lick. My men crossed a fresh trail of about forty men made on the 12th near Drew's Lick. As quick as I can get my horses up I will try and find out about this party above me. The same party, I think, killed an Indian on the 12th twenty miles above me on this river.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. BRUCE,
Captain, Commanding at Mackey's Salt-Works, C. N.

Col. S. H. WATTLES,
Commanding Indian Brigade, Fort Gibson, C. N.

P. S.—I wish that the provost-marshal would send to this place or put in the guard-house every one of my soldiers found in Gibson without proper authority. Good many sick here.

J. HARVEY BRUCE.

No. 5.

Report of Maj. John A. Foreman, Third Indian Home Guard.

CABIN CREEK, *September 20, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report:

The train has been captured on the 19th instant, one-half burned and the balance carried away. The destruction is complete. Colonel Williams, with his brigade, came upon them at Pryor's Creek, and after an artillery duel, the enemy retreated southwest. They crossed the Arkansas River, strewing the road with quartermaster and commissary stores. On reaching this point I found Doctor Ritchie at his post, and only for his remaining the wounded would have been murdered and the hospital sacked, all of which has been saved by his prompt and efficient conduct. I will finish burying the dead to-morrow, and collect such Government property that I find scattered, of which I will report to-morrow. I will move on the 22d to the Neosho Crossing. There I will await orders, expecting such from Fort Scott, to escorting the next train down.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. FOREMAN,
Major Third Indian Home Guard.

Col. C. W. BLAIR,
Fort Scott, Kans.

No. 6.

Reports of Maj. Henry Hopkins, Second Kansas Cavalry.

FORT GIBSON, C. N., *September 22, 1864.*

I would respectfully make and forward the following report:

The supply train under my command having been repaired and loaded at Fort Scott, Kans., I moved on the 12th of September with as much dispatch as the condition of the animals would permit for this place.

On leaving Fort Scott I sent orders to the commanding officers of stations on the road between that post and this to thoroughly scout the country in their vicinity and notify me if the enemy be there and their movements, and also to re-enforce me with as many troops as they could spare, being fully convinced that the enemy intended an attack on the train at some point on the route between Scott and Gibson. The escort under my command numbered 260 men, composed of the following troops: Fifty men mounted and thirty dismounted of the Second Kansas Cavalry; sixty mounted and seventy dismounted men of the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, under command of Captain Stevenson, and ten mounted men and forty dismounted of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, under command of Captain Ledger. The entire train numbered 300 wagons—205 Government wagons, four Government ambulances, and ninety sutler wagons, &c. On arriving at Baxter Springs, this force was increased to 360 men by the arrival of 100 Cherokee Indians, under command of one white officer, First Lieutenant Waterhouse, Second Indian Regiment, and one Indian officer, Captain Ta-la-lah, Third Indian Regiment. At this place I received a dispatch from Col. C. W. Blair, commanding at Fort Scott, to the effect that General Price had crossed the Arkansas River at Dardanelle and was moving north. I forwarded this to Colonel Wattles at Fort Gibson and urgently requested him to forward without delay all the troops he could spare to re-enforce me, as I anticipated an attack from a heavier force than my present force could contend with successfully.

Arriving at Hudson's Crossing of the Neosho River I ordered Lieutenant Waterhouse with his command to remain at that station, and moved with the rest of my command and train to Horse Creek, fifteen miles south. On the night of the 18th [17th], at 12 o'clock, while camped at this place, fifteen miles north of Cabin Creek, I received a dispatch from the commanding officer at Gibson stating that the enemy were in force, numbering 1,200 or 1,500, with infantry, and moving in the direction of Cabin Creek, and embodied in the dispatch was an order for me to move with all possible dispatch to Cabin Creek, and there await further orders to move the train. I immediately moved the train in double column and arrived at Cabin Creek at 9 a. m. on the 18th instant. Lieut. B. H. Whitlow, Third Indian, with 140 Cherokees, re-enforced me at this point, together with 170 Cherokees stationed at that point under command of Lieutenant Palmer, Second Indian Regiment. My entire force at this point numbered 120 mounted cavalry (white), 140 dismounted cavalry (white), and thirty mounted Cherokees and 330 dismounted; the entire force under my command numbering 610 white men and Indians.

On arriving at Cabin Creek, in the afternoon of the same day, I moved out to the south of that point with twenty-five men of the Second Kansas Cavalry, under command of Captain Cosgrove, Second Kansas Cavalry, for the purpose of ascertaining the position and force of the enemy. Moving south from the station at Cabin Creek three miles, I found the enemy strongly posted in a hollow on the prairie. Pickets were re-enforced and the train formed in a quarter circle, preparatory to an attack. At 12 o'clock on the night of the 19th [18th] my pickets were driven in and the enemy reported advancing in force. My lines were formed and the train was ordered to be parked in close order in rear of the stockade. At 1 o'clock [19th] the enemy opened with artillery and small-arms and moved upon my lines with a yell. At that time information was received that the enemy numbered from 600 to 800 men, and was not informed that they had any artillery until

it opened fire upon my lines. The enemy's lines were formed in a quarter circle covering my right and left flank, and the nearest estimate I could form of their numbers was between 2,000 and 2,500 and four or six pieces of artillery. (They numbered not less than 2,000 at the very lowest estimate and four to six pieces of artillery, some of them rifled guns.) The enemy formed in two lines with mounted men in the first line and dismounted in the rear line, a few paces in rear of the first. Two pieces of their artillery were posted in our immediate front and two pieces opposite the right flank, making a cross-fire on my line and the train. At the first charge of the enemy the teamsters and wagon-masters, with but very few exceptions, stampeded, taking with them one or more mules out of each wagon, leaving their trains and going in the direction of Fort Scott. This rendered it impossible to move any portion of the train. The enemy was held in check from 1 a. m. by about 400 of my men until 7.30 o'clock, when they advanced upon my line, planting their artillery within 100 yards of our position, and our forces were compelled to fall back in disorder, leaving the train, excepting a few wagons and an ambulance that immediately moved back on the Fort Scott road across Cabin Creek. I encouraged the men to hold out until daylight, at which time I was in hopes Major Foreman, Third Indian Regiment, with six companies of Indians and two howitzers would arrive and attack the enemy in the rear. In order to move the train across the creek to a more remote position, I made every effort to rally the teamsters and wagon-masters, and while attempting to accomplish this the enemy swung around my right flank and took possession of the road in our rear, rendering all efforts to move the train useless. On seeing this, I collected all the scattered troops possible together and moved in the direction east of Cabin Creek, on Grand River, where I was in hopes of joining Major Foreman, and if possible retake a portion of the train. At daylight I sent a messenger to the commanding officer at Hudson's Crossing of the Neosho River to immediately join me with his entire force, and in doing so he would protect any parties or part of the train that might have fallen back in that direction. Finding it impossible to join Major Foreman, I sent a messenger to the commanding officer at Gibson informing him that the train had been captured, and I immediately marched for that place and arrived there on the morning of the 21st at 7 a. m.

I expected Major Foreman to join me on the morning of the attack, but I find he was not within forty-five miles of my position at the time the enemy moved upon me. The force sent under Col. J. M. Williams I knew nothing of until my arrival at Gibson. I sent four messengers to Gibson, calling for re-enforcements, two of whom were cut off and captured, and consequently were not received by the commanding officer at the post, but every effort was made on his part to hurry up to my assistance all the force he could possibly spare. I was not apprised that the enemy had more than 1,200 to 1,500 men, and did not expect they had any artillery, until they opened it upon my line at 10 o'clock in the morning. The night previous to the attack it was my understanding that Major Foreman, with 300 Indians and two mountain howitzers, would camp within nine or ten miles of the post at Cabin Creek and move on to re-enforce me at daylight next morning. It is my opinion that the enemy did not get away with more than 75 or 100 wagons, including Government wagons, sutler wagons, and ambulances. The remainder were destroyed at Cabin Creek. Great credit is due the commanding officer at Gibson in forwarding re-enforcements, and also to all the officers and men under my command throughout the en-

tire engagement for their bravery and gallant conduct. Lieut. G. W. Smith, adjutant Thirteenth Kansas Infantry, rendered throughout the entire engagement very efficient service and prompt action. It is at this time impossible to forward the number of killed, wounded, and prisoners, but will forward as soon as possible the result. Lieut. Col. J. B. Wheeler, Thirteenth Kansas Infantry, was on the field with me at the opening of the engagement. Three men of the Second Kansas Cavalry, taken prisoners two days before they attacked me, have just escaped from them, but at different times, and report their forces at from 4,000 to 5,000 and six pieces of artillery, General Gano commanding.

Very respectfully,

HENRY HOPKINS,
Major Second Kansas Cavalry.

FORT GIBSON, C. N., *September 28, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to herewith transmit the inclosed report of the engagement at the station on Cabin Creek, a point sixty miles north of Fort Gibson, C. N., on the morning of the 20th [19th] of September, 1864. I would also report that I lost all my official correspondence, copies of my returns of all Government property and commissions, and all muster-rolls.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY HOPKINS,
Major Second Kansas Cavalry.

FORT GIBSON, C. N., *September 25, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report:

Having charge of a supply train from Fort Smith, Ark., to Fort Scott, Kans., and on arrival at that post having loaded it, I moved from that point for Fort Smith, Ark., via Fort Gibson, C. N., on the morning of September 12, 1864. My escort at the time of leaving Fort Scott, Kans., numbered 260 men, composed of the following troops: Fifty mounted and thirty dismounted men of the Second Kansas Cavalry, under Capt. P. Cosgrove, Second Kansas Cavalry; ten mounted and forty dismounted men of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, under command of Captain Ledger, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, and sixty mounted and seventy dismounted men of the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, under command of Captain Stevenson, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry. The entire train numbered 300 wagons, as follows: 205 Government wagons; 4 Government ambulances, and 91 sutler wagons, &c. At Baxter Springs, sixty miles south of Fort Scott, Kans., I was re-enforced by Captain Ta-la-lah, Third Indian Regiment, with fifty Cherokee Indian troops from Fort Gibson, C. N. At this point I received a dispatch from Col. C. W. Blair, commanding post at Fort Scott, Kans., that General Steele, commanding at Little Rock, Ark., had telegraphed him to the effect that the rebel General Price had crossed the Arkansas River at a point midway between Fort Smith and Little Rock with a force of 5,000, and was moving north. I immediately forwarded this dispatch to Col. S. H. Wattles, commanding at Fort Gibson, C. N., and requested him to re-enforce me with all the troops he could spare at the earliest possible moment, as I anticipated an attack from a heavier force of rebels than

my present escort could successfully contend with, and at the same time protect a train of 300 wagons, and that from the most reliable information I could get it was their intention to make that attack at some point north of Fort Gibson, C. N. I dispatched four messengers at different times, and from different points, urgently asking for re-enforcements; but I am fully satisfied two of said messengers were captured by the enemy.

On the night of September 18 [17], at 12 o'clock, while encamped at a point seventy miles north of Fort Gibson, C. N., I received orders from the commanding officer there, Col. S. H. Wattles, to move with all possible haste fifteen miles south to the station on Cabin Creek, and there await further orders from him. He dispatched also that the rebels were 1,200 or 1,500 strong, with infantry, and moving, as he thought, with the intention of attacking the train. He also informed me that, in addition to 140 Indian troops he had ordered to join me, he had ordered Maj. J. A. Foreman, Third Indian Regiment, with six companies and a section of mountain howitzers, to my assistance, and would meet me at the station on Cabin Creek. I immediately moved the train as ordered, arriving at the station on Cabin Creek at 9 a. m. on the 19th [18th] of September. At this point I was joined by Lieut. B. H. Whitlow, Third Indian Regiment, with 140 Cherokees and Creeks, and the force at the station under Lieutenant Palmer, Second Indian Regiment, numbering 170 Cherokees, increasing my escort at that place to 610 men, whites and Indians. It was impossible here to obtain information as to the position and force of the enemy. On the afternoon of the same day of my arrival at Cabin Creek Station I moved south of the station three miles with twenty-five Second Kansas Cavalry, under command of Capt. Patrick Cosgrove, Second Kansas Cavalry, for the purpose of ascertaining the position and force of the enemy, and found them at this distance from the station strongly posted in a deep hollow on the prairie, but could not form an approximate idea of their strength. My pickets were doubled and the train formed in a quarter circle on a good point near the stockades, preparatory to an attack.

At 12 o'clock on the night of the 19th [18th] of September my pickets were driven in, and the enemy reported advancing in force. My lines were immediately formed, and the train ordered to be parked in close order in rear of the stockade. At 1 o'clock in the morning [19th] the enemy opened with artillery and small-arms, and moved upon my lines with a yell. At this time it was reported that the enemy were 600 or 800 strong, and they were in close proximity before their lines could be seen, and I was not informed that they had any artillery until it was opened upon my lines. The enemy's lines were formed in a quarter circle, covering my right and left flank, and the nearest estimate I could form of their numbers was between 2,000 and 2,500 men, with from four to six pieces of artillery, some of them rifled guns. The enemy formed in two lines, with mounted men in the first and dismounted men in the second, a few paces in rear of the first line. Two pieces of their artillery were posted in our immediate front and two pieces opposite my right flank, making a cross-fire on my lines and the train. At the first fire of the enemy the teamsters and wagon-masters, with but very few exceptions, stampeded, taking with them one or more mules out of each wagon, leaving their teams, and going in the direction of Fort Scott, Kans. This rendered it impossible to move any part of the train. The enemy was held in check with about 400 of my men from 1 o'clock to 7.30 a. m., when they advanced upon my lines, planting their artillery within 100 yards of my position; and our forces were compelled to fall back in

disorder, leaving the train, with the exception of a few wagons and an ambulance that moved back on the Fort Scott road. I encouraged my men to hold out until daylight, at which time I was in hopes Major Foreman with six companies and two howitzers would arrive and attack the enemy in the rear. In order to move the train across the creek to a more remote position, I made every effort to rally the teamsters and wagon-masters, and while attempting to accomplish this the enemy swung around my right flank and took possession of the road in my rear, rendering all efforts to move the train useless.

On seeing this I collected all the troops it was possible together and moved in a direction east of Cabin Creek, on Grand River, where I was in hopes of joining Major Foreman, and, if possible, retake the train or a portion of it. At daylight I sent orders to the commanding officer at the crossing of the Neosho River (thirty miles north of my position, on the Fort Scott and Fort Gibson military road) to immediately join me with his entire force, and in doing so he would give protection to any portion of the train or command that may have fallen back in that direction. Finding it impossible to join Major Foreman, I sent a messenger to the commanding officer at Fort Gibson informing him that the train had been captured, and I immediately marched for that place, arriving on the morning of the 21st September, at 7 a. m. I expected Major Foreman with his force to join me on the morning of the attack at daylight, but, I find, he was not within forty-five miles of my position at the time the enemy moved upon me. I was not apprised that the enemy's force exceeded 1,200 or 1,500 men until they attacked me. The enemy destroyed most of the train, and did not take from the field to exceed 80 or 100 wagons. Lieut. Col. J. B. Wheeler, Thirteenth Kansas Infantry, was on the field at the opening of the engagement. Prisoners escaping report the force of the enemy at the time of the engagement 5,000 strong, with six pieces of artillery, Generals Gano and Watie commanding. I lost in killed, wounded, and missing not to exceed 35 men.

Great credit is due to the commanding officer at Gibson in forwarding re-enforcements, and also to all officers and soldiers under my command throughout the entire engagement for their bravery and gallant conduct.

Lieut. G. W. Smith, adjutant Thirteenth Kansas Volunteers, rendered during the entire march from Fort Scott and the engagement very efficient service and prompt action.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY HOPKINS,
Major Second Kansas Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army.

No. 7.

Report of Capt. Edgar A. Barker, Second Kansas Cavalry.

FORT GIBSON, C. N., *September 20, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the evening of the 18th [16th] instant, while guarding a hay party on the prairie, fifteen miles west of Fort Gibson, C. N., with detachments of Second Kansas Cavalry and First Kansas Colored Infantry, amounting in the aggregate to 125 effective men, I received information from my scouts of an advance made by the enemy, at that time reported 200 strong, in the direction

of my camp. I immediately formed my men on a ravine in the rear of my camp, in the most advantageous position, to repel an attack or protect the hay, and, taking a squad of mounted men with me (the rest of the cavalry being dismounted), proceeded to reconnoiter for the enemy, and find out their number and designs. I met them about two miles from my camp, 1,000 or 1,500 strong, with six pieces of artillery. I immediately fell back, skirmishing with their advance, which made several unsuccessful attempts to cut me off from my camp; after reaching which I dismounted my men and placed them in the ravine with the others, which was no sooner accomplished than the main body of the enemy appeared and attacked me from five different points, their infantry line moving up to within 200 yards, while their cavalry made three distinct charges, but were each time handsomely repulsed by the colored infantry and dismounted cavalry. After fighting them for half an hour, and finding myself completely overwhelmed and surrounded, and my position every moment becoming more and more untenable, I determined to charge them with my mounted men, and order the infantry and dismounted cavalry to make the best of their way to the Grand River timber, about a mile distant. Mounting my men and selecting the weakest point in their lines, I made at them with a rush they could not withstand, and succeeded in cutting my way through, with a loss of all but fifteen men. The whole force of the enemy then charged into my camp, capturing all of the white soldiers remaining there, and killing all the colored soldiers they could find. Only four out of thirty-seven of them succeeded in making their escape. The enemy captured and destroyed all of my camp and garrison equipage, company books, and papers of every description pertaining to my company. Also a quantity of ordnance and ordnance stores, and 25 head of public horses, for which I was responsible. Also 12 U. S. mules and 2 6-mule wagons and harness, which were in my possession. About 1,000 tons of hay were burned, together with all the mowing machines, wagons, &c., belonging to the hay contractors. My whole loss is 40 killed; wounded, missing, and prisoners, 66. I am very much indebted to Lieuts. P. W. Straw and John O. Miller, Second Kansas Cavalry, and Lieutenant Sutherland, First Kansas Colored Infantry, as well as the whole command, for the alacrity and willingness with which they obeyed and executed my orders.

The rebels were commanded by Brig. Gen. R. M. Gano, and consisted of De Morse's, Gurley's, Hardeman's, and Martin's Texas regiments, Howell's Texas battery (which was not used in the engagement), and 500 Cherokee and Creek Indians, under Brig. Gen. Stand Watie.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. BARKER,

Captain, Second Kansas Cavalry, Comdg. C Company.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY,

Washington, D. C.

No. 8.

Report of Col. Charles R. Jennison, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST SUB-DISTRICT, SOUTH KANSAS,

In the Field, Fort Scott, Southern Kansas, September 22, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the first reliable detailed account of the recent disaster to our arms on Cabin Creek, southwest

of this post, resulting in the capture of a large supply train and the total rout and destruction of the escort:

From all sources, but more particularly the statement by Captain Cosgrove, of the Second Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, I am enabled to gain the following particulars of the affair: On the night of the 18th [17th] instant Major Hopkins, Second Kansas Cavalry, in command of detachments of the Second, Sixth, and Fourteenth, a total of about 300 men, escorting train to Forts Gibson and Smith, received a dispatch from Colonel Wattles to make all possible expedition to Cabin Creek and remain there until re-enforced, as a large rebel force was marching on his command. Major Hopkins with his command reached Cabin Creek about 12 o'clock on the 19th [18th] from Horse Creek, at which point the dispatch from Colonel Wattles was received. Immediately thereafter a second communication was received from Colonel Wattles notifying Major Hopkins that he would be re-enforced by Major Foreman with six companies of cavalry and two howitzers. About 4 p. m. the commanding officer at Cabin Creek notified Major Hopkins that his scouts had seen a rebel force, apparently about 100 strong, when the major in person with a detachment of twenty men started to ascertain the correctness of the report. One man was seen on the prairie, a lieutenant of an Indian regiment, who was followed to the picket-lines of a large body of troops posted in the timber. This force being too strong to attack the detachment fell back on the main command with the train. The wagons were immediately corralled and Major Hopkins began his preparations for defense.

At 11.30 o'clock the pickets were driven in and reported that the rebels were advancing. The major then formed the escort in line of battle and directed Captain Cosgrove, with twenty-two men, to re-enforce the picket-post which had reported the advance, accompanying the detachment himself. Captain Cosgrove reports that he rode some little distance ahead of the command and almost to the rebel lines before being aware of his proximity thereto. He then retired and informed the major that the rebels were forming in line of battle. Captain Cosgrove was then directed to place his detachment in position on a small mound near by, and observe their movements while skirmishing with them as long as possible. The rebels continued to advance until the line arrived within speaking distance, when a conversation substantially as follows [occurred] between Captain Cosgrove and the commanding officer of the rebels, the latter asking Captain Cosgrove what his men were. The captain answered, "Federals," and asked a similar question, which was answered, "Rebels, by God!"

Confederate. "Who is your commander?"

Captain Cosgrove. "A Fed. Who is yours?"

Confederate. "A mixture. Will you protect a flag of truce?"

Captain Cosgrove. "I will tell you in a short time."

Captain Cosgrove then informed Major Hopkins of the interview and was directed to receive the flag. Upon being informed of the decision the rebel commander returned no answer, but his line advanced, flanking Captain Cosgrove's detachment on either flank. Not receiving an answer, Captain Cosgrove directed his pickets to fire on the advancing line. The fire was returned and the rebels charged with a yell, though no shot was fired until the order was given by the rebel commander. The mules of the train were soon stampeded by the fire of the rebel artillery, which opened on our line at 150 yards' distance, the fire being continued until our troops retreated in disorder. Captain Cosgrove states that he does not know where Major Hopkins was at the time

but thinks he was cut off from the command. The Indians then retired to the stockade, upon which the rebels opened with the artillery, soon compelling the evacuation of the stockade. The captain reports that while retreating they could plainly see the hay burning at Cabin Creek; there was about 10,000 tons of it. It is the general impression of parties who have returned that the rebel force was a portion of Stand Watie's command, and that the noted rebel was present in person. The attacking force is supposed to have numbered between 2,000 and 3,000, all well armed and disciplined, and making very effective use of their artillery. The most strenuous efforts were made by the rebels to get the train off, but as yet no positive intelligence has been received of their success or failure.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. R. JENNISON,
Colonel, Comdg. First Sub-District South Kansas.

Capt. GEORGE S. HAMPTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District South Kansas.

No. 9.

Reports of Capt. Curtis Johnson, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry.

HDQRS. CO. E, FIFTEENTH REGT. KANS. VOL. CAV.,
Osage Catholic Mission, Kans., September 20, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to forward the following details of the late raid, as far as can be learned from those arriving at this post:

The entire train, with all the animals except a few ridden away by stragglers, has been captured and all the escort killed, as they took no prisoners. The main body of the enemy was composed of Cherokee Indians, and after capturing part of the train, in which were sutlers' wagons, they procured liquor, and after becoming intoxicated slaughtered indiscriminately. The latest news received is up to a short time after daylight yesterday morning, when the rebels made their third and final charge. They are known positively to have two regiments of infantry, four pieces of artillery, and the number of cavalry unknown, but must be considerable. Shortly after daylight this morning I dispatched a scout southward under Lieutenant Smith, and at the same time a wagon with rations for those coming up on foot, and the wounded, of which I learn there are a number. Captain Ledger, Company L, Sixth Kansas, with twelve men charged the rebel battery as a *dernier ressort*, and fell within fifteen feet of the muzzle of one of their pieces, both horse and rider being completely riddled with balls. I shall detain all soldiers who have arms until the danger is passed, and shall keep out pickets and scouts until I find the location of the enemy. It is reported that Major Foreman was within eight miles of the train at the time of the capture with six companies from Fort Gibson and having two pieces of artillery. I shall await the result of his expedition with anxiety and will inform you at once of any news received. Should anything occur between this and sundown, I will forward particulars per special messenger. Lieutenant Wallingford, Company A, Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, has arrived at this post.

I remain, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CURTIS JOHNSON,
Captain, Commanding Company.

Lieut. W. H. MORRIS,
Acting Post Adjutant, Humboldt.

HDQRS. COMPANY E, FIFTEENTH KANSAS VOL. CAVALRY,
Osage Catholic Mission, Kans., September 20, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to forward the following additional particulars of the late raid:

Both officers and men have been constantly arriving here during the day. All soldiers with arms I detain. There are now nearly eighty of the latter here. It is my intention, as soon as Lieutenant Smith returns, if he reports favorably, to take my company and go to Cabin Creek with transportation after the wounded, leaving my camp in charge of some one of the commissioned officers now here, and detain all stragglers that may arrive, which, in addition to those already here, will render my camp secure while my company is in the face of the enemy.

The latest news received is up to 9 o'clock yesterday morning, when finding themselves completely surrounded and exposed to a withering fire, those yet on the field cut their way through and escaped. Lieutenant Clark, Fourteenth Kansas (now here), cut his way through with six men, losing one, and bringing five safely into camp. Captain Ledger, Sixth Kansas, who was reported killed, arrived here a short time since. All who witnessed it, speak in terms of the highest praise of his daring charge at the head of twelve men upon the rebel battery.

The following is a list of the officers now at this post: Capt. H. P. Ledger, Company L, Sixth Kansas; Capt. Thomas Stevenson, Company H, Fourteenth Kansas; Capt. J. W. Duff, Company M, Sixth Kansas; Lieut. W. H. Kendall, Company E, Second Indian; Lieut. Benj. H. Whitlow, Company H, Third Indian; Lieut. A. F. Bicking, Company A, First Indian; Lieut. W. B. Clark, Company E, Fourteenth Kansas; Lieut. W. P. Phillips, Company B, Second Kansas; Lieut. E. W. Lucas, Company G, Sixth Kansas; Lieut. Levi F. Stewart, Company I, Sixth Kansas; Lieut. J. Brooks, Company M, Sixth Kansas.

Several of the above-named officers will proceed to Fort Scott to-morrow.

Lieutenant Jennings, Company D, Fourteenth Kansas, is supposed to have been captured, and is reported by officers now here as being in a state of beastly intoxication when last seen on the field.

In conclusion I have the honor to request that you will inform the commanding officer that any re-enforcements for this post will be most thankfully received.

CURTIS JOHNSON,
Captain, Commanding Company.

Lieut. W. H. MORRIS,
Acting Post Adjutant, Humboldt, Kans.

HDQRS. COMPANY E, FIFTEENTH KANSAS VOL. CAVALRY,
Osage Catholic Mission, Kans., September 25, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to forward the following details in relation to the late raid:

On Tuesday, 20th instant, 2 a. m., messenger arrived from Cabin Creek, reporting train captured. By 8 o'clock Tuesday stragglers began to arrive, confirming first report. Officers who had arrived earnestly requested me to send subsistence and transportation forward for the relief of the wounded. I dispatched Lieutenant Smith with a detachment and a wagon with rations. During Tuesday p. m. they continued to arrive in large numbers, and were positive that scores on the road would be overtaken and murdered if not assisted. Wednesday morning I placed Lieutenant Brooks, of the Sixth Kansas, in command of all

stragglers at this post, and at the earnest solicitation of all officers present started for the scene of disaster with my company, a detachment of the Third Wisconsin, and some Osage braves, who had volunteered as scouts and guides, taking two wagons with rations and forage. Scores were met on Wednesday. Wednesday night encamped on the Neosho, six miles above mouth of La Bette. At 2 a. m. Thursday messenger arrived with order to return. By 3.30 a. m. was on the road to Mission. Main body with teams arrived in camp at 11 a. m. bringing in over twenty sufferers. I have succeeded in saving, besides the lives of those nearly famished, several thousand dollars' worth of Government property. I got five mules yesterday brought in by Osages, whom I promised coffee and sugar for all property brought in. Two men from Companies C and G, Second Kansas, came in yesterday from the Arkansas River. They were taken prisoners at Flat Rock, brought by the rebels within four miles of the battle-field at Cabin Creek, and taken south after the capture of the train and made their escape at the crossing of the Arkansas. They report as follows:

The rebel force was composed of the Seventh, Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, and Thirty-first Regiments Texas Cavalry, two Creek and one Seminole regiment, and a six-gun battery. They attacked the force at Flat Rock on Friday, having previously murdered the two companies of negroes stationed below. James M. Carlton, Company C, Second Kansas, one of the escaped prisoners mentioned above, reports Corpl. Robert Hampton, Privates James H. Davis, James Ledgewood, Bailey Duval, and Marion Thompson missing and supposed killed; Sergts. John Q. Farmer, G. Gugler, and James M. Nance, Corpl. Andrew W. Davis, Privates Peter Smith, William Stubblefield, Frank Thomas, Ezra Benson, Jacob Milliman, David Beigert, John Van Horn, Thomas Hickey, Amos Taylor, and John M. Taylor prisoners; Private William Pineger wounded and prisoner; all of Company C, Second Kansas. Private Louis Hammer, Company G, Second Kansas, the other escaped prisoner, reports Sergeant McDougal and Private Smith killed; Sergt. John Tuxson and Private A. Frank Corbin wounded and prisoners; First Lieutenant Straw, Second Lieutenant Miller, Sergts. A. Jackson Hanna, and John Bousfield, Corpls. Frank White, Clark, and William T. Ainsworth, Privates Fuller, Riner Yelkin, John Harmon, James Mahoney, Dean, Henry Whiteday, Goodwin, Parker, and Edward B. Test prisoners. The rebels took over the Arkansas about 150 prisoners, 100 being soldiers, the remainder citizens and teamsters. They left Perryville, Ark., on Tuesday, — instant, with four days' rations. A portion of the force was from Boggy Depot, Ark. They had five negro soldiers prisoners, the remainder they killed, some thirty in number. Of the citizens taken prisoners Mr. Twist, Mr. Martin (hay contractor), and Mr. Beach and family (the latter released and set at liberty), are mentioned. The rebels arrived at the Arkansas crossing on Tuesday evening, when they were met by General Cooper with another force to assist them over with the fruits of their expedition and cover their retreat to Perryville. They effected the crossing about 10 o'clock Tuesday night. The above-named escaped prisoners report the rebels highly elated at their success. A teamster from below has just come in, having been without food since last Sunday, a week to-day. He has been lying in the timber mostly, being afraid to venture out.

I remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CURTIS JOHNSON,
Captain, Commanding Company.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE H. HOYT,
Fifteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry.

No. 10.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Samuel B. Maxey, C. S. Army, commanding District of Indian Territory.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF INDIAN TERRITORY,
Fort Towson, C. N., September 16, 1864.

GENERAL: I herewith inclose a letter* received last night from General Cooper containing some important information as well as the outline of the move Gano and Watie are now on, as shown by copy of Genéral Gano's letter forwarded yesterday. I respectfully call your attention to the outline of campaign for this district as drawn by me June 27 last. I have long thought that movements of this kind were most valuable for this district. I call your attention to General Cooper's suggestion that the whole of the Indian division go on this move with Watie to Kansas. Several days ago I directed General Cooper to increase Watie's force, if he could spare the men from the rest of the division. As this is a proposition Watie made, I have not thought it advisable to send the whole Indian force, as he might regard himself overslaughed on his own proposition, but expressed the opinion to General Cooper that the troops organized for the new Creek brigade might be spared for this enterprise. So it is, these movements in my opinion will be more valuable (and moves similar) in this district than any that could be made by this command elsewhere. I would be glad to know as early as practicable the part we will have to play.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

S. B. MAXEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Shrereport, La.

It will be observed that the move of Gano and Watie is a dash that will not interfere with the main move of Watie to Kansas.

S. B. M.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF INDIAN TERRITORY,
Fort Towson, C. N., September 27, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose official dispatch of Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, dated 21st instant, giving report of the fight at Cabin Creek on the 19th; also General Cooper's letter of transmittal, dated Camp Pike, 25th, and extract of letter from Maj. L. H. Oliver, depot commissary at Perryville, to Capt. M. L. Bell, assistant adjutant-general here, of same date. Cabin Creek, where the fight took place, is on the Fort Gibson and Fort Scott road, fifty miles from the former place. Watie was, as his dispatch shows, on Bird Creek on the 21st, two days after the fight. This is about the same distance west-northwest from Gibson. He is evidently giving a wide berth to Gibson, crossing the Arkansas considerably above that point. As he was not pursued on the 21st, as I infer from his dispatch, the only danger was in a force striking his left flank as he came out. The steps taken to meet that (which I do not think likely) will, I think, be sufficient. This expedition was a gallant undertaking, handsomely performed, and the troops

* See Cooper's report of September 14, p. 781.

engaged deserve the thanks of their country. Should Major Oliver be right in his statement that the wagons were laden with sutlers' stores and clothing, it will be most fortunate not only in supplying to a degree the ragged command but will I hope disaffect those for whom I presume they were designed—the Pin Indians.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

S. B. MAXEY,
Major-General.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Shreveport, La.

Full particulars will be forwarded as soon as received.

S. B. M.

[Inclosure.]

OFFICE COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE,
Perryville, C. N., September 25, 1864.

Capt. M. L. BELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: * * * I will give you synopsis of latest news just received. Gurley, Gano, and Watie captured, on the 19th at Cabin Creek, C. N., over 250 wagons, 120 prisoners. Our loss slight. Only 130 wagons were saved; balance burned. They were loaded with clothes and sutler's stores. * * *

L. H. OLIVER,
Major and Commissary of Subsistence.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF INDIAN TERRITORY,
Fort Towson, C. N., September 30, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward herewith official copies of dispatches received this morning, as follows: Letter of Brig. Gen. D. H. Cooper, inclosing dispatches, September 27; dispatch from Brig. Gen. R. M. Gano, September 23 instant; dispatch from Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, same date; memoranda of information of enemy's movements furnished by Capt. J. N. Hildebrand, September 26. I have the satisfaction of saying that these dispatches exhibit the full and complete success of the enterprise, of which you have been previously advised. There has not been a more daring or successful raid according to size during the whole war, and the officers and men engaged are entitled to the thanks of the country. Cabin Creek, where the main fight took place, is fifty miles north of Fort Gibson.

On the 23d they had crossed and got twenty miles south of Arkansas River and sixty miles west of Fort Gibson, from which point they could reach General Cooper's camp at Fishertown in one or two days. Fishertown is four or five miles north of North Fork Town, on the Fort Gibson road. There is an excellent road from North Fork Town to Perryville, distance about forty miles.

I shall issue a complimentary general order, and respectfully request that the same be done by department headquarters, believing the gallant officers and men who have won this signal success fully deserve it, and its effect will be inspiring on all concerned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. B. MAXEY,
Major-General.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, &c., Shreveport, La.

[Inclosure.]

FISHERTOWN, C. N.,
Near North Fork Town, September 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. H. COOPER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: On the 21st of September I started for Gibson, and arrived in the vicinity of that place on the morning of the 24th, and obtained the following information, viz: That General Watie had attacked a Federal train on Cabin Creek, stampeded the Federals, and captured the whole train, killing a considerable number of mules, burned a large number of wagons, and left with the remainder of the train. Was pursued by the Federals and whipped them back. Was followed a second time, and by a larger force, under command of Colonel [Major] Foreman, which returned to Gibson without meeting any success, and reported that the enemy (rebels) had got off with eighty wagons loaded with sutler's goods and commissary stores, including $8,000 worth of blanks [blankets]. After giving up the idea of recapturing the train about 100 Indians were sent to Mackey's Salt-Works to make salt, and Colonel [Major] Foreman with his command was sent to Kansas to fit out another train. I also learned that General Watie destroyed all their hay on the west side of Grand River which had been put up and salted down. There is a small lot of hay near Gibson, east. The force at Gibson consists of three Indian regiments and two companies of negroes, estimated at about 1,500 men, and three pieces of artillery (all that my informant knew anything about). On the 23d instant the Thirteenth Kansas Infantry and one negro regiment of infantry were encamped at Dick Thompson's, near Gibson. On the 24th they broke camp and left, going in the direction of Fort Smith, and encamped for the night on Greenleaf Prairie sixteen miles from Gibson. The Federals, number not known, have been leaving Fort Smith for some time and going in the direction of Springfield, Mo. There is at this time a very small force at Fort Smith. I further learned that John or Johnson Thompson, of General Watie's command, got drunk and went to sleep, and when he awoke, seeing a body of men and supposing they were Watie's men went to them, and finding they were Federals surrendered. Was carried to Gibson and kept until he was sober, and then marched out and publicly shot.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. N. HILDEBRAND.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF INDIAN TERRITORY,
Fort Towson, C. N., October 1, 1864.

GENERAL: A private letter received by me this morning from General Gano, dated Camp Bragg, September 29, shows that the expedition under Gano and Watie has got out safely. Camp Bragg is two miles south of Johnston's Depot on the Canadian, on south side of Canadian and near and to the left of the road leading from Perryville to Fort Gibson (the emigrant road). This is all right and I apprehend no further fears as to the safety of the captured property. General Gano says, I brought in 120 wagons and 740 mules. He further says clothing was issued to 2,000 men—1,200 of his brigade and 800 of Watie's. This is a perfect godsend, as the command was literally ragged. The official reports will be forwarded as early as received. I rejoice at this great

success. Gano says he started out with 111 prisoners and reached Camp Bragg with 104. Seven attempted to escape in a dark bottom one night, and 3 were killed and 4 escaped. General G. will leave the command according to orders heretofore issued by you, and come by these headquarters, whence I suppose he will proceed to Shreveport.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

S. B. MAXEY,
Major-General.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Trans-Mississippi Dept., Shreveport, La.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF INDIAN TERRITORY,
Fort Towson, C. N., October 7, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the official report of Brig. Gen. R. M. Gano of recent operations north of the Arkansas River:

The campaign in this Territory since my return last spring from Arkansas has been eminently successful. A steam-boat laden with valuable stores has been captured, the boat destroyed, and most of the supplies saved. Several important mails have been taken. One entire regiment almost demolished and its camp destroyed. Many prisoners, horses, mules, and cattle, as well as some wagons, have at different times been captured; some fine pistols and guns taken; a vast amount of hay destroyed, and the campaign has now culminated in what I regard one of the most brilliant and skillfully managed cavalry raids of the war. The moral effect has been very great.

The troops (Indian and white) are in fine spirits. It is believed that had the nature of movements in Arkansas justified remaining for a few weeks longer other important results might have followed. It is a source of pride and gratification to me that I am able to report this condition of things. It is hoped that the efforts now being made by the people of Northern Texas, added to what the Clothing Bureau may do, and the captured clothing, will provide the command against the inclemencies of winter. Should it be in the power of the department to completely arm the command, it would render much more efficient service.

I take pleasure in specially commending the commanding officer of this enterprise, Brig. Gen. R. M. Gano, to the notice of the general commanding the department. It seems to be the universal desire of the brigade that he should be continued in command.

I also call your attention to the noble course of General Watie. General Gano had been recognized a brigadier-general and acted as such before the date of General Watie's commission. General W., however, governed by patriotism, a feeling of delicacy, and, as he considered, justice, raised no issue, but acted in perfect harmony and concert for the common good.

I am glad also to notice the cordial and hearty co-operation of the Indians and whites (officers and men) in this movement. It will be observed that all are reported as having done their duty. The results prove it. I also inclose General Cooper's letter of transmittal.

I call your attention to the report of scout of Captain Fields,* First Cherokee Regiment, near Van Buren, and of Lieut. Col. Jack McCurtain,* Choctaw battalion, near Fort Smith, forwarded on Wednesday. If troops could be sent against Fort Smith now it might result in the

* Not found.

evacuation of that place and Fort Gibson. I suppose, however, this will not be done until it is determined that the enemy do not design moving on Washington and Fulton. The same result would be brought about by the recapture of Pine Bluff and Little Rock.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. B. MAXEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Trans-Mississippi Dept., Shreveport, La.

No. 11.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Douglas H. Cooper, C. S. Army, commanding Indian Division.

HEADQUARTERS INDIAN DIVISION,
In the Field, September 14, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have just received information that a considerable portion of the Federal forces has moved from Fort Smith, twenty-two miles toward Gibson, to camp between Big and Little Sallisaw, on the Whisky road. Generals Watie and Gano have been ordered across the river; will cross above Gibson to-morrow night, sweep around by William Alburty's, twenty miles above Gibson at Grand River, destroy a large hay camp there, take in mules, &c., herded; perhaps run into a train now expected from Fort Scott; return by Mackey's Salt-Works and the camp on Sallisaw and back, recrossing Arkansas at the mouth of Canadian or Webber's Falls. If Gibson is weak enough they may look in there. The above is the programme, and I have faith that we shall have a good report before long from the north side. I have ordered the Second Indian Brigade, except the Choctaw battalion, across to this road, leaving McCurtain to watch the road to Fort Smith, southeast of this. I think the Federals have heard of Price and are preparing to bolt. What detains Duff's regiment and battery? I am afraid they will be too slow on the trigger and the Federals escape. I have not force enough to take them in, if, as General Dick Taylor would say, "They get bunched up." But we will try to make them drop some of their plunder.

Respectfully,

D. H. COOPER,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. T. M. SCOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

N. B.—Now is the time, if there is any force of consequence southeast of Fort Smith, to push the Federals; they will leave in a hurry. General Price might give Fayetteville a "side-wipe," any way, as he passes up. Where is Cabell; where Brooks? There are nearly 800 Arkansas Federals (Harrison's regiment) at Fayetteville.

D. H. C.

P. S.—The preparations for the expedition into Kansas will not be interrupted by the raid, but are going on. The project of a raid into Kansas up Neosho in conjunction with a movement into Missouri is as

old as the war, and orders for it have been issued from here to turn whenever our army had a prospect of going into Missouri; but it ought to be done with a larger force than Stand Watie can start. His might do for a flanking party out west, but the whole Indian Division ought to move up Grand River and Neosho while General Price goes into Missouri; each column would support and create a diversion in favor of the order. General Maxey has probably forgotten, but I gave him the outline of such a movement in conversation soon after he assumed command of the district.

D. H. C.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. FORCES, INDIAN TERRITORY,
In the Field, September 24, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the expedition from this command, under Generals Watie and Gano, north of Arkansas River is on its return, having destroyed several Federal camps and a large quantity of hay between Gibson and Cabin Creek on the Texas and Missouri road, and captured a train of between 100 and 200 wagons, with many prisoners. The above is from an old Uchee warrior, whom I know to be reliable, who arrived yesterday at headquarters of First Creek Regiment, bringing arms, &c., captured by himself from a Federal officer. Generals Watie and Gano are returning slowly, the command being much worn and tired. I moved up this morning with Walker's brigade and Duff's command to old Camp Pike, on Canadian, and also send parties toward Conchanty to meet the train in case it should return by the route west of this.

Respectfully,

D. H. COOPER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. T. M. SCOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

N. B.—Official report will be forwarded as soon as received.

D. H. C.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. FORCES, INDIAN TERRITORY,
Camp Pike, September 25, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I herewith have the honor to forward Brigadier-General Watie's report* of operations of detachment of First Indian and Gano's brigades, commanded by Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, north of Arkansas River. I shall move in the direction of Gibson this morning, in order to render any assistance that may be required in bringing off the train.

Respectfully,

DOUGLAS H. COOPER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. T. M. SCOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Of September 21, p. 783.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. FORCES, INDIAN TERRITORY,
Fishertown, C. N., September 27, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inclose for the information of General Maxey communications just received from Generals Watie* and Gano,† reporting result of the raid north of Arkansas, which is as brilliant as any one of the war.

Respectfully,

D. H. COOPER,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. T. M. SCOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—My scouts having yesterday reported that the Federals had abandoned the pursuit of General Watie, I shall halt here until he arrives, on which I think will be to-morrow or next day at latest. I have sent Col. D. N. McIntosh, with 400 Creeks, to scout between the Creek Council Ground and Gibson and cover the train, and also give me information if the enemy attempt to move out as General Watie gets near them.

Respectfully,

D. H. C.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. FORCES, INDIAN TERRITORY,
In the Field, October 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward official report by General Gano† of the operations north of the Arkansas River of detachment from this command, consisting of First Indian Brigade and brigade of Texas Cavalry, Brig. Gen. Stand Watie having, as I learn from General Gano, waved rank in his favor; also, please find copy of General Orders, No. 26, from these headquarters, which you will oblige me by publishing, with comments or additional order, as the major-general commanding District of Indian Territory may desire to make. Prisoners captured are sent in charge of Col. James Duff, commanding Texas Cavalry brigade.

Respectfully,

D. H. COOPER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. T. M. SCOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Indian Territory.

No. 12.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, C. S. Army, commanding First Indian Brigade.

BIRD CREEK, *September 21, 1864.*

GENERAL: On the morning of the 19th we attacked the enemy's post at Cabin Creek. After a fight of six hours drove the enemy away. The train was there, which was captured—over 250 wagons. We have now over 100 wagons with us. Will cross Arkansas at Tulsa Town

* Of September 23, pp. 784, 788.
† Dated September 29, p. 788.

and fall into your road made 1861, the route I took last winter. Dispatches can be sent to me on that route. Enemy in force was on Pryor's Creek on the evening of the same day of the fight. We have 120 prisoners along.

Our loss is very slight—2 men killed and few wounded.

The enemy may attempt to cut us off. Perhaps it would be well to open communication with us on the route. We are short of ammunition. The blow will be severely felt by the enemy. His loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners is over 200.

Your friend,

STAND WATIE,
Brigadier-General.

Brig. Gen. D. H. COOPER,
Commanding Division.

CAMP BETWEEN ARKANSAS AND DEEP FORK,
September 23, 1864.

GENERAL: My note of the 21st, dated at Bird Creek, near Milton's, was sent on that morning. The messenger returned the same evening, having taken an alarm. He may still be delayed. I send another. We have traveled finely so far with 129 captured wagons. On the 16th we dashed into a camp of the enemy near Mr. Alburty's, dispersed them; over 100 killed, 85 prisoners captured. We burned a large amount of hay. On the morning of the 17th [19th] met the train at Cabin Creek. After a fight of six hours the enemy gave way. The entire train of 250 wagons was captured. The loss on the part of the enemy in killed was considerable. Great many mules were killed, others stampeded, wagons broken, which were burned together with wagons for the post. Here also a large amount of hay was burned.

Our loss is slight—only 2 from this brigade killed, few wounded, none very serious. The loss of the Texans is also small.

In my note of the 21st I stated the route would be the road made by you in 1861, but I have taken the left leading to Shields', on the Deep Fork, and if the way is clear we should fall in at the Creek Council Ground, from thence to North Fork Town.

Your friend,

STAND WATIE,
Brigadier-General.

Brig. Gen. D. H. COOPER,
Commanding Division, Indian Territory.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST INDIAN BRIGADE,
Camp Bragg, October 3, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following for the information of the general commanding as my report of the operations of the troops of this brigade in the recent raid in the enemy's rear and west of Grand River. Previous to setting out on this expedition I had informed the general commanding that from the active service in which my brigade had been engaged since 31st of July before Fort Smith that my horses were not in condition to do much service. He then informed me that I could get additional fresh troops from the Texas brigade.

On the 12th ultimo Brigadier-General Gano called on me at Camp Corser, when the expedition was determined upon, and the general commanding so informed.

On the 13th I joined General Gano at Camp Pike, and the same evening arranged the plan of the expedition. By an arrangement with General Gano each one of us was to command his own troops, but act together and harmoniously. This we concluded to be the better plan, as the two brigades did not belong to the same division and were temporarily thrown together. I have had no cause to regret this arrangement, the conduct of General Gano on all occasions being such as might be expected of so gallant an officer.

On the 14th we marched to Prairie Springs, General Gano's forces amounting to some 1,200 and Howell's battery of six guns. My command consisted of 200 First Cherokee Regiment, Lieut. Col. C. N. Vann commanding; 150 Second Cherokee Regiment, Maj. John Vann commanding; 125 First Creek, Lieut. Col. Samuel Chekote commanding; 200 Second Creek, Col. T. Barnett, and 130 Seminoles, under Col. John Jumper, the whole force amounting to about 2,000.

On the 15th, my brigade composing the advance, I dispatched Major Vann with regiment on the right flank, with instructions to throw scouts out as far as the river on the extreme right, which he did, but failed to find any of the enemy's parties on the south side of the river. He crossed the Arkansas River at the Creek Agency. On the north bank of the river discovered one Federal Creek, who being fired upon escaped, leaving his horse and equipments in our possession. The remainder of the expedition crossed the river six miles above the agency. The river being deep we were delayed a short time, crossing artillery ammunition on our horses. Encamped first at Camp Pleasant, on Blue, four miles below Chosky.

On the 16th instant crossed the Verdigris River at Sand Town. About noon discovered a party of the enemy at work putting up hay on the road to Fort Scott, twelve or fifteen miles above Fort Gibson. Lieutenant-Colonel Vann, First Cherokee Regiment, and Captain Strayhorn, commanding Thirtieth Texas Regiment, were dispatched to the right, with instructions to gain the enemy's rear and to intercept his escape to the timber on Grand River. This movement was executed promptly and with entire success. They gained the desired position and opened a vigorous fire on the enemy, who were encamped on a small creek on the prairie. They were driven into the creek and protected themselves from our fire by the banks. General Gano moved his command directly to the front, and my brigade took the left, and in a short time the enemy were completely surrounded. Owing to the distance and the rapidity of movement of my command the line became somewhat broken, when a party of about sixty-five of the enemy's cavalry attempted to break through, but only four succeeding in making their escape; the rest were either killed or captured. The engagement lasted but a short while owing to the great superiority of our numbers and the complete surprise of the enemy.

Lieutenant Porter, Second Creek Regiment, captured 7 of Second Kansas all armed with six-shooters. The whole number of prisoners was 85, about as many killed, and but few escaped. The enemy were two companies of the Second Kansas and one company of negro troops. Here we burned large quantities of hay—not less than 3,000 tons—in ricks and upon the ground; also a number of wagons and several mowing machines.

Having received information from the prisoners that the train which was expected from Fort Scott—the capture of which was the principal object of the expedition—was looked for daily, I sent Major Vann, Second Cherokee Regiment, up the Fort Scott road four miles, with instructions to send forward a small party to ascertain whether or not the train was in our vicinity. He accordingly took charge of the party himself, and after going but a short distance was fired into by the enemy's picket and narrowly escaped being killed. Thinking the train advancing, upon receiving this intelligence, I sent Lieutenant-Colonel Vann with his regiment to his assistance. This enemy, however, proved only a small re-enforcement going to the train and moved northward during the night. Everything remained quiet until morning.

Early in the morning General Gano sent a party to burn the hay at the Hickey place, but they found it strongly protected by additional troops from Fort Gibson. Re-enforcements were sent and a brisk skirmish ensued, but they were unable to accomplish this object, and as time, which was now all-important to us, would be required, our troops were withdrawn and rejoined the command, which had been steadily moving northward. Encamped on Wolf Creek on the 17th.

General Gano on the 18th proceeded with 400 Texas troops and two pieces of Howell's battery toward Cabin Creek, where we had learned the enemy had a garrison of 300 of the Second Indian Regiment (Cherokee Home Guards). About 3 o'clock I received a note from General Gano stating that the train was at Cabin Creek, and requesting me to move forward the whole command to that point as rapidly as possible. I joined him after midnight. After consultation we agreed to move on the enemy at once, who was aware of our approach, but entirely ignorant of our numbers. General Gano formed his line of battle on the right; my brigade formed on the left in the following order: First and Second Cherokee Regiments, Seminoles, Second and First Creek Regiments on the extreme left. Howell's battery took position in the center. The enemy had decidedly the advantage in position. Our men were formed on an elevated prairie that descended to the enemy's position on the creek. The moon, which shone very brightly, was in our rear. They thus had the double advantage of firing up hill with the moon and sky light. The enemy were strongly posted from the nature of the place under cover of the timber and bluff of the creek. They also had the residence of Joseph L. Martin on the road strongly fortified with heavy timbers set upright in the ground, that rendered them complete protection against small-arms. On the right of this they had placed long ricks of hay running parallel with each other and with the creek. The greater part of the train extended from the hay ricks up the creek on their right.

About 3 o'clock on the morning of the 19th the firing commenced by the enemy's skirmishers on their right. Soon the engagement became general along the line from right to left. During the night it was difficult to ascertain the enemy's exact position and strength, excepting from his fire. His line seemed to extend the length of ours. For a considerable length of time the firing was heavy and incessant. Our forces steadily advanced, driving the enemy to his cover. During the night our left drove the enemy from his position, leaving in our possession a part of his train, around which a guard was immediately thrown and most of the wagons moved to our rear.

Just at daybreak we supposed, from the noise in the enemy's camp, that he was crossing his train over the creek and moving it in the

direction of Fort Scott. I accordingly sent Lieutenant-Colonel Vann with the two Cherokee regiments across the creek on the left to gain the enemy's rear and intercept the trains. He gained the position, but no wagons were crossing. He captured 18 prisoners.

After daylight we discovered the enemy's true position and moved a section of Howell's battery on the left, supported by the First and Second Creeks, and opened a vigorous fire from this advantageous position on his encampment and fortifications. The Seminole and Twenty-ninth Texas Regiments, moving on the left of the battery, drove the enemy from his cover and through the encampment. Soon the confusion became great in his ranks and a general stampede ensued, leaving in our possession his train, stockade, hay, camp and garrison equipage. Many of his dead and wounded were also left on the field.

Among our killed were Lieutenant Patterson, adjutant Seminole Regiment. He fell at his post gallantly doing his duty. His loss is great and irreparable to his command. Of the Texas brigade 7 were killed on the field. A complete list of the killed and wounded of this brigade will be furnished. Among the wounded are Major Vann, severely through the neck; Captain Taylor, dangerously through the thigh, and Captain Shannon, slightly in the breast—all of the Second Cherokee Regiment; and Lieut. Richard Carter, Company C, First Cherokee Regiment, slightly.

The enemy's forces consisted (from the best information received from prisoners and others at their hospital of the garrison before mentioned) of 300 Indian Home Guards, 280 escort from Fort Scott, 150 re-enforcements from Fort Gibson, 250 teamsters, armed for the occasion, and many Pins, who came in on hearing of our approach. His numbers were, therefore, between 900 and 1,000.

Lieut. Col. C. N. Vann, Maj. John Vann, commanding First and Second Cherokee Regiments; Colonel Barnett, Second Creek Regiment; Col. John Jumper, Seminole Regiment, and Lieut. Col. Samuel Chekote, First Creek Regiment, deserve the highest commendation for their gallant conduct during the whole engagement, which lasted from 3 to 9 a. m. The greater part of this time they were under constant fire.

Maj. J. A. Scales, assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. Saladin Watie, aide-de-camp, and Sergt. Maj. Patrick Patton, First Cherokee Regiment, merited particular notice for the prompt and efficient aid rendered in keeping their troops in order, and for their brave and soldierly bearing on all occasions.

The conduct of the officers and men generally was fine, and all, without distinction, are entitled to great credit.

The train was composed of 250 wagons, besides post wagons loaded with Government quartermaster's, commissary, and sutler's supplies. Many of the wagons were so broken by the stampede of the teams when the artillery opened on the camp that it was impossible to bring them off. We crossed Arkansas with 130 wagons; all the rest were burned; also ten ricks of hay, each containing 500 tons. Mowing machines and everything in camp was destroyed. After getting out all the wagons possible under the circumstances we moved southward in good order. Near Pryor's Creek we met enemy's re-enforcements going to the train. We drove them back several miles. The train moved during the night northwest and crossed Pryor's Creek higher up; crossed Verdigris next evening at Claremore's Mounds. Nothing of interest transpired during the rest of the march.

The greatest unanimity and good feeling existed between the officers and men of the two brigades. The fortitude and endurance displayed in the long and constant march for several consecutive days and nights speak for them the highest praise.

The actual loss in dollars to the enemy will exceed $1,500,000. The damage is inestimable and irreparable from the lateness of the season. The expedition returned after an absence of sixteen days.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

STAND WATIE,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. T. B. HEISTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 13.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Richard M. Gano, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.

CAMP SOUTH OF ARKANSAS RIVER TWENTY MILES,
About Sixty Miles from Gibson, September 23, 1864.

GENERAL: I have not written you before because I could not get a courier. We engaged the enemy on the 16th, 17th, 19th, and 20th instant; were successful every time. Killed, wounded, and captured about 323 of the enemy. Lost 23 killed and wounded in all; 7 killed. We captured the entire train (247 wagons and about 700 mules). We are bringing out 130 wagons, 165 prisoners, mules, and stores. I will make out a full official report as soon as I reach camp. We burned all the train not brought out. Our men behaved gallantly. The enemy had strong position at Cabin Creek and held out six hours. God has blessed us.

Your obedient servant,

R. M. GANO.

Brig. Gen. D. H. COOPER.

CAMP BRAGG, *September 29, 1864.*

GENERAL: I left camp on the morning of the 14th with 1,200 men from my brigade and Howell's battery. Was accompanied by General Watie with a detachment of 800 men from his brigade to make an expedition north of the Arkansas River. We proceeded to Prairie Springs and encamped on the night of the 14th.

About noon on the 15th instant we arrived at the Arkansas River and found it swollen so as to make it a difficult passage. It required six hours to cross the river; hard work. All the artillery ammunition had to be packed over by hand, and many of our brave boys were plunged beneath the waves in consequence of quicksands. We encamped in the river bottom, two miles above Redbank's Ford and thirteen miles northwest from Fort Gibson.

On the 16th we proceeded on our way, crossing the Verdigris at Sand Town Ford, about eight miles from the hay camp at Flat Rock. From this point I sent Gurley's regiment, accompanied and piloted by a de-

tachment from General Watie's command, around to the rear of the enemy's camp, while we proceeded slowly toward the camp. General Watie and staff with my staff accompanied me to the top of a mountain while the command was halted below, and from our elevated position we could view their camps, and with spy glasses could see them at work making hay, little dreaming that the rebels were watching them. From thence we moved to within one mile of their camp unperceived, and I sent Lieutenant-Colonel Welch to the right with a column composed of the Twenty-ninth and Thirty-first Texas Cavalry (De Morse's and Hardeman's), while General Watie conducted the Indian column to the left, while I carried forward the center, with Howell's battery supported by Martin's regiment, the Gano Guards, under Captain Welch, and Head's and Glass' detachment of companies. I could distinctly see Captain Strayhorn formed in the enemy's rear. The clouds looked somber and the V-shape procession grand as we moved forward in the work of death. Then commenced a running fight with the enemy's cavalry, while with the center I moved down and engaged their infantry. I sent Major Stackpole with a captured Federal lieutenant under flag of truce to demand surrender, but they fired upon my flag and then commenced the work of death in earnest. The sun witnessed our complete success, and its last lingering rays rested upon a field of blood. Seventy-three Federals, mostly negroes, lay dead upon the field.

We captured 85 prisoners and left 5 badly wounded. We captured and destroyed their camps and stores with large quantities of hay. Our loss was 3 wounded.

We slept upon the battle-ground and found next morning the enemy at sunrise on the 17th advancing from north and south. I sent Hardeman's battalion, under Major Looscan, southward to meet the force from Fort Gibson while we proceeded northward and drove off the cavalry without a fight. Major Looscan engaged the enemy, killing 1 and lost none. We now proceeded with the whole force northward toward Fort Scott to meet the expected train. We proceeded almost to Rock Creek, and hearing nothing of the train we feared lest they might have taken the road east of Grand River. We encamped on Wolf Creek midway between the roads; scouted both and learned that the train had not passed.

On the morning of the 18th I proceeded with 400 men and two pieces of artillery toward Cabin Creek, leaving General Watie in command of the camp. I found the enemy at Cabin Creek with a train of 255 wagons and an immense herd of mules grazing on the prairie. We were as yet undiscovered, and I dispatched a courier to General Watie to bring up the balance of our force and the other four guns, which he did without delay. The enemy found us before dark, but my force was secreted and their efforts to ascertain our strength were ineffectual.

General Watie arrived about 12 o'clock, and I immediately moved the whole column forward, Lieutenant-Colonel Welch's command in front with the Gano Guards and Head's company as flankers. When within half a mile of the enemy I formed in line of battle, Colonel Welch on the right, second Major Mayrant, third Howell's battery, supported by the Gano Guards, Head's and Glass' companies; fourth Major Looscan and Captain Strayhorn, commanding Gurley's regiment, on the left. General Watie's command was formed on the left of my brigade. Having ascertained that the enemy were about moving their train, I advanced the entire line to within 500 yards of the enemy's position. An officer

came out in the darkness to hold converse, and having informed us that they were Federals and learned that we were rebels, he called on God to damn us, and invited us forward. I asked him if he would receive a flag from us. He said he would answer in five minutes. I waited fifteen, and hearing some wagons moving I advanced my line about 3 a. m., and when within 300 yards or less of their fortifications they opened fire. We replied with small-arms and artillery. The teamsters, demoralized, fled and left their teams to tangle up in the timber and break off wagon tongues. Some teams ran over the cliffs and the wagons crushed the teams to death. Not being able to see the fortifications, and having accomplished my design of stopping the train, I moved my command back under the brow of the hill and awaited daybreak. There was a rest for near one hour, when the wagons began to stir again. I moved forward and gave them several more volleys and retired again.

Soon day broke and the dawn revealed to us what appeared to us to be immense earth-works, but afterward proved to be immense hay ricks, ten in number, and just in the rear of said ricks a strong fortification constructed of logs set up in the earth. To the left the timber along the bluff of Cabin Creek was filled with wagons and mules, and from behind all these the enemy sent missiles of death. I changed the position of the artillery so as to command the hay ricks and wagons, and got General Watie to send Colonel Vann with the two Cherokee regiments across to capture all wagons that might have left before day. I dismounted Colonel Jumper's command to assist in supporting the battery, and afterward ordered Gurley's regiment to that post and Jumper in the timber to flank the enemy's right. He doubled back their right and drove them full 150 yards, when they came to a stand. Now appeared a crisis, and I charged them with Gurley's regiment, leading them in person, and would have carried the position but for a gully some twenty-five yards in the rear filled with armed men who had not yet participated. They were not visible until within twenty-five or thirty yards of them. We were compelled to fall back, but not one man of the gallant Thirtieth started from that murderous fire until I ordered them to do so. I then ordered Captain Strayhorn, Lieutenant-Colonel Welch, and Major Mayrant to take the timber and drive the right, the Creeks and Seminoles having exhausted their ammunition, while Howell, Looscan, and Captain Welch poured their fire into the original front, now the enemy's flank. Crash after crash of shell swept Yankees, negroes, Pins, and mules away from the land of the living, while every regiment and company poured in volley after volley, and the brave Indians, having replenished with ammunition, came again to the work, and all with a loud shout rushed on to victory, driving the enemy beyond their fortifications, from where they fled in wild confusion to the densely-timbered bottoms.

At 9 o'clock (six hours after the first volley was fired) the field was ours, with more than $1,000,000 worth of Federal property in our hands. We burned all the broken wagons and killed all the crippled mules. We brought off 130 wagons and 740 mules. We clothed 2,000 men of the expedition so as to make them comfortable for the present and have some commissaries on hand.

The killed of the enemy at Cabin Creek numbered about 23; the wounded not known; captured 26. The jaded condition of our already weak horses prevented us from capturing as many as we might have done. Our loss was 6 killed, 45 wounded—3 mortally.

As we moved back with our train we met a re-enforcement from Forts Smith and Gibson going up to protect the train, consisting of infantry, artillery, and cavalry. We drove them back three miles and a half, held them in check all night, and created the impression that we had parked the train for the night by running an empty wagon over a rocky place for two hours, while our train was being moved with all possible dispatch toward Arkansas River. The day found us separating rapidly, we following our train, while they were retreating toward Fort Gibson. We expected to fight at Arkansas River, and hurried forward with all dispatch day and night. For three days and nights our boys were without sleep, except such as they could snatch in the saddle or at watering places. They dug down banks, cut out trees, rolled wagons and artillery up hills and banks by hand, kept cheerful, and never wearied in the good cause, and came into camp rejoicing on the 28th instant.

We were out fourteen days, marched over 400 miles, killed 97, wounded many, captured 111 prisoners, burned 6,000 tons of hay and all the reapers or mowers—destroyed altogether from the Federals $1,500,000 of property, bringing safely into our lines nearly one-third of this amount (estimated in greenbacks).

Our total loss was 6 killed, 48 wounded—3 mortally.

The officers and men behaved gallantly. General Watie was by my side at Cabin Creek, cool and brave as ever. Lieutenant-Colonel Welch, commanding Twenty-ninth; Major Mayrant, commanding Martin's regiment; Major Looscan, commanding Thirty-first; Captain Strayhorn, commanding Thirtieth; Captain Welch, commanding Gano Guards; Colonel Vann and Major Vann, commanding Cherokees; Colonel Jumper, of the Seminoles and Creeks, deserve great praise. Besides captains and lieutenants, many were noticed by me of whom I cannot now speak, for space and time will not allow.

Captain Howell and lieutenants of the battery deserve special mention for gallantry and efficiency. Captains Nicholson and Matthews, Lieutenants Wall and Gano, Adams and Smoot, Majors Stackpole, Eakins, Captain Pulliam and Doctor Sears, of my staff, all were there and did their part well. Also Major Scales and Lieutenant Watie, of General Watie's staff, did nobly. I wish I could name all. The men all did well and laid up for themselves imperishable honors. They fought as the brave patriot fights. Our cause is dear to their hearts, and to say they were in the Cabin Creek fight of the 19th is honor.

While all did their duty, let us give God the praise and thank him that the victory is ours.

Your obedient servant, &c.,

R. M. GANO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

General D. H. COOPER,
Commanding Division.

DALLAS, *October 8, 1864.*

GENERAL: I notice in looking over my reports that I omitted the name of Colonel Chekote. You will please have his name inserted just after that of Colonel Jumper. No regimental commander was more zealous than Colonel C. Cheerful in the discharge of duty and gallant on the field, I regret the omission, but my report was hurriedly

gotten up, as you are aware, and there may have been others who deserve special mention; but where all did so well it is useless to name them. To say they were there is enough.

Your obedient servant, &c.,

R. M. GANO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Major-General MAXEY,
Commanding District.

P. S.—I have just reached home. Will remain five or six days, and then proceed via Doaksville to Shreveport.

R. M. G.

Return of casualties in Gano's brigade in the engagement at Cabin Creek, Ind. Ter., September 19, 1864.

[Compiled from nominal lists of casualties.]

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
29th Texas Cavalry	.....	1	a2	8	11
30th Texas Cavalry	.....	3	b2	14	19
Martin's Texas cavalry	.....	1	.....	4	5
Hardeman's battalion	.....	1	.....	4	5
Head's company cavalry	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Welch's company cavalry	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Howell's battery	.....	.....	.....	3	3
Total	.....	7	4	34	45

a Capt. T. W. Daugherty and Lieut. Leslie C. De Morse wounded.
b Lieut. G. W. Chitwood mortally wounded. Lieut. W. W. Parks wounded.

No. 14.

Congratulatory Orders.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 26. HEADQUARTERS INDIAN DIVISION, *Camp Bragg, September 30, 1864.*

I. The thanks of this command are hereby tendered to the gallant officers and men of Gano's and Watie's brigades and Howell's battery for the signal successes they have gained over the enemy within his lines and in rear of his fortifications north of the Arkansas River by destroying his forage camps and capturing a magnificent train of 255 loaded wagons and other property (valued at $1,500,000 in United States currency), a large proportion of which they secured and brought out, marching over 300 miles in fourteen days, engaging the enemy victoriously four times, with small loss on our side in numbers. We mourn the death of the honored few, among them the promising young soldier, Adjt. D. R. Patterson, of the Seminole Regiment, whose career of usefulness was suddenly terminated at Cabin Creek while at the side of the gallant chieftain, John Jumper, charging the enemy's right. The enemy lost 97 killed, many wounded, and 111 prisoners.

The brilliancy and completeness of this expedition has not been excelled in the history of the war. Firm, brave, and confident, the officers had but to order and the men cheerfully executed. The whole having been conducted with perfect harmony between the war-worn veteran Stand Watie, the chivalrous Gano, and their respective commands, ending with the universal expression that they may again participate in like enterprises, the commanding general hopes that they and the rest of the command may soon have an opportunity to gather fresh laurels on other fields.

II. In the departure of General Gano he takes the best wishes of the commanding general, and it is a matter of pride to record in general orders the gallant bearing, energy, and promptness which has characterized that officer in the execution of every order and instruction from his brilliant dash at Diamond Grove to the splendid achievement at Cabin Creek. While the circumstances attending require his immediate transfer, the commanding general hopes that it may be of short duration.

By command of Brig. Gen. D. H. Cooper:

T. B. HEISTON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF INDIAN TERRITORY,
No. 61. } *Fort Towson, C. N., October 7, 1864.*

I. The major-general commanding announces with pride and pleasure the series of brilliant victories on the 16th, 17th, 19th, and 20th ultimo north of the Arkansas River, by the troops under the leadership of the gallant and chivalrous Gano and the noble old hero, Stand Watie, accompanied by Howell's battery.

Of this expedition General Gano in his offical report says:

> For three days and nights our boys were without sleep, except such as they could snatch in the saddle or at watering places. They dug down banks, cut out trees, rolled wagons and artillery up hill and banks by hand, kept cheerful, and never wearied in the good cause, and came into camp all rejoicing on the 28th. We were out fourteen days, and marched over 400 miles, killed 97, wounded many, captured 111 prisoners, burned 6,000 tons of hay and all the reapers and mowers—destroyed altogether from the Federals $1,500,000 worth of property, bringing safely into our lines nearly one third of this amount (estimated in greenbacks). Officers and men behaved gallantly.

Of General Watie, he says: "General Watie was by my side, cool and brave as ever." Of the whole command he says: "The men all did their duty and laid up for themselves imperishable honors."

Throughout the expedition I am rejoiced to say perfect harmony and good will prevailed between the white and Indian troops, all striving for the common good of our beloved country. For gallantry, energy, enterprise, dash, and judgment, and completeness of success this raid has not been surpassed during the war. The major-general commanding deems this a fit occasion to say that not the least of the glorious results of this splendid achievement is the increased good will of the Indian and white troops toward each other, and the increased cheerfulness and confidence of all in their prowess and ability to whip anything like equal numbers. Throughout the year the morale of the command has been steadily on the increase. For the troops of the Indian Territory this has been a year of brilliant success. Your Arkansas campaign is part of the recorded history of the country.

Since your return almost every part of the command has been engaged. A steam-boat laden with valuable stores has been captured; a regiment has been almost demolished in sight of the guns of Fort Smith, the survivors captured, and the camp destroyed; many guns and pistols have been taken; mail after mail has been captured; hay camps almost without number have been destroyed and the hay burned; horses, mules, and cattle have been wrested from the enemy and driven into our lines; vast amounts of sutler's stores have been captured; wagons have been burned in gunshot of Fort Smith; the enemy has been virtually locked up in his forts, and your successes have culminated in this most glorious victory, over which the telegraph informs us the enemy is now wailing.

In our rejoicings let us not forget our gallant comrades in arms who have offered up their lives upon their country's altar of freedom—priceless sacrifices to their country's redemption. If there be widows and orphans of these gallant men seek them out and deliver this poor tribute to their worth, and let us remember the sufferings of our wounded and offer them the tears of sympathy.

Soldiers! there is a cruel enemy still cursing your country; there is still work to do. You have proven what you can do. Remember that strict and cheerful obedience to orders, strict discipline, and thorough drill will render you still more efficient as soldiers of the holy cause. Your commanding general has every confidence in your ability and willingness to take and perform any part you may yet have in the ensuing campaign.

II. It is ordered that this order be read at the head of every regiment and battalion and company of artillery and at every post in this district.

III. A copy will be forwarded of this order and the commendatory order of Brig. Gen. D. H. Cooper to the headquarters Trans-Mississippi Department.

S. B. MAXEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 81. HDQRS. TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPT., *Shreveport, La., October 12, 1864.*

The general commanding announces to the army the complete success of one of the most brilliant raids of the war. The expedition under Brigadier-Generals Gano and Stand Watie, penetrating far within the enemy's lines, has captured his forage camp and train, destroyed 5,000 tons of hay, and brought out 130 captured wagons loaded with stores, after destroying as many more, which were disabled in the action. These, with 135 prisoners and more than 200 of the enemy killed and wounded, attest the success of the expedition. The celerity of the movement, the dash of the attack, and their entire success entitle the commands engaged to the thanks of the country.

By command of General E. Kirby Smith:

S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 11–30, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Rice, Dak. Ter., to relieve Captain Fisk's emigrant train.

Report of Col. Daniel J. Dill, Thirtieth Wisconsin Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS EXPEDITION FOR RELIEF OF
CAPTAIN FISK'S EMIGRANT TRAIN FOR IDAHO,
Fort Rice, Dak. Ter., October 4, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report for the information of the general commanding that in pursuance to instructions from headquarters Northwestern Indian Expedition, dated September 10, 1864, I left this post on the morning of the 11th of September with a command of 850 men, viz. 550 infantry, 300 cavalry, and one section of artillery, and followed the trail of the Northwestern Indian Expedition for five days. I then bore to the left, going a very little south of west, on the trail of the emigrants, seeing but two or three small parties of Indians until the tenth day out from this post, when we reached the corral of the emigrant train, after marching a distance of 180 miles. They had fortified themselves, and were in a condition to resist any attack made by the Indians. The emigrants stated that the Indians had left some days previous to my arrival at the corral, evidently satisfied that they could not take it, and that no Indians had been seen since they first left. I think there is no doubt but that the Indians moved forward into the Bad Lands (which were quite close by), thinking perhaps the train would commence to move when they disappeared, when they undoubtedly could have captured the whole train, as they could not have doubled the train up short enough to have protected it with the force they had. Captain Fisk told me he had been trying to get the emigrants for some days to break the corral and move forward, but he could not get them to do it. The emigrants told me they never intended to move one mile forward without a strong escort. They appeared to be fully aware of the danger of going forward into the Bad Lands. I think Captain Fisk deserves censure at least for trying to urge the emigrants forward under the circumstances, and knowing as much as he should of the Indian character. I informed Captain Fisk and the emigrants that I had come to relieve them and escort such as wished to go back to Fort Rice to that point. Captain Fisk requested me to send two companies of cavalry to escort him and the train for three or four days, which he claimed would put him beyond danger, when, as he stated, he could go through without an escort. I of course refused to grant any such request, knowing the folly and madness of such a move as that.

I informed the emigrants that my command would march at 9 o'clock the next morning for Fort Rice on its return and that any who wished the protection of the command could have it by being ready at that time. Captain Fisk made another and a last effort to get the emigrants to go forward with him without an escort, calling on them to divide and show by that their decision in the case; at the same time faulting them for what he called backing out. They divided and about twenty decided to go on with Fisk, the rest to go back with me, saying they would never go forward without a heavy escort. Fisk declared his determination to go on with the twenty men and even less, but after sleeping on the matter and finding in the morning that a number of the twenty men had changed their minds and were going back with my command, he concluded to return with them. I left the corral at

9 o'clock on the 21st of September with the whole train, arriving at this post on the afternoon of the 30th without meeting with any Indians and seeing but one or two small parties. I crossed a number of trails of small parties and one of a large party apparently going south toward the Black Hills. I also saw fresh tracks and evidences of small parties on the Cannon Ball River on my return, but saw but one small party of six or seven Indians on the river. The losses in the command were 1 man, 15 horses, and a few oxen. The man obtained liquor from some of the emigrants and became intoxicated the morning we left the corral and supposed to have laid down and [been] left behind. He belonged to the Eighth Minnesota Volunteers.

On the sixth morning out from this post at your 50 camp, a small party of Indians charged through the picket-line just at the break of day, and stampeded about thirty horses, and succeeded in getting away with fifteen. We were compelled to leave about fifteen or sixteen oxen, they becoming completely worn out. As before stated I arrived at this place on the afternoon of the 30th and the following day ordered the troops of the command to their several destinations as directed by you, viz: The detachment of the Second Minnesota Cavalry to Minnesota, via Fort Wadsworth, escorting such of the emigrants as went that way; and the detachments of Brackett's battalion, Sixth Iowa, and section of artillery, to Fort Randall and Sioux City, escorting a Government train of wagons and those of the emigrant's train going that way, which was the larger majority of the emigrants, but few went across to Minnesota. The detachments of the Eighth Minnesota Volunteers and Seventh Iowa Cavalry I ordered to report to Lieutenant-Colonel Pattee, who took boats and left the evening of the 1st instant for Sioux City.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DANL. J. DILL,
Colonel Thirtieth Wisconsin Infantry, Commanding Expedition.

Capt. JOHN H. PELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 12, 1864.—Skirmish at Caledonia, Mo.

Report of Maj. James Wilson, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

PILOT KNOB, MO., *September 13, 1864.*

GENERAL: A squad of forty or fifty guerrillas attacked fourteen men commanded by Sergeant Warfield, Company A, Third Cavalry Missouri State Militia, at Caledonia yesterday, at 12 o'clock, and were repulsed, with 1 man killed and several wounded. The sergeant had 2 men severely wounded. Last night at 12 o'clock they plundered the stores at Iron Mountain and destroyed the papers and machine in telegraph office. All the mounted men I have are in pursuit of them.

JAMES WILSON,
Major, Commanding.

Brigadier-General EWING.

SEPTEMBER 12–15, 1864.—Scout from Fayetteville to Huntsville, Ark., with skirmish (14th) at Rodgers' Crossing of the White River.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. M. La Rue Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).
No. 2.—Capt. John I. Worthington, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

No. 1.

Report of Col. M. La Rue Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
Fayetteville, Ark., September 18, 1864.

GENERAL: Last Monday, 12th, learning that a party of rebels under Captain Cooper were intending to attack your upward-bound train, I ordered Capt. J. I. Worthington to escort it as far as Little Sugar Creek, and thence after leaving the train to sweep up White River toward Richland and Huntsville. I inclose a copy of the report of his expedition. He attacked Cooper's band, over eighty strong, near Jennings' Ferry, on White River, and completely routed him. In the different skirmishes he killed 9 men. He captured Lieutenant Rogers, who left Price at Washington (or Camp Magruder) on the 2d instant, carrying a large rebel mail to Missouri. He learned that the rebels were on the way to attack your train about seven miles south of Cross Timbers, but had been misinformed as to the time of its leaving this place, and were about twelve hours too late. Worthington burned a rebel tannery, and a large amount of leather in vats and some saddles were destroyed. Our loss, 1 man slightly wounded. Rogers was formerly from Gadfly; says he thinks Price is already north of the Arkansas. All letters captured and information received go to show that a column of 12,000 rebel cavalry is moving or is about to move north into Missouri (probably by way of Batesville); that Price is in command of that cavalry, and that Magruder is left to command Arkansas, and that the rebels expect to winter on the Arkansas River. The rebel Colonels Brooks and Stirman crossed the Arkansas about the 10th with 300 men; camped one night on White River, south of this place; crossed over to Cane Hill, having been joined by Tuck Smith's, Brown's, and other roving bands, which will augment their numbers to nearly 600. As near as I can learn, their intention is to attack your next train and use it to transport their plunder south. They expect to move out some rebel families, and take all the roving guerrillas to the main army. This I gather from scouts, who heard Brooks and Stirman express such intentions. I desire you to give Major Galloway a strong escort for his horses, and think it will be necessary to guard well the trains from Cassville to South Sugar, as the enemy have learned my style of escorting trains to that place and will make the next attack north of it. Send me word a few days in advance of each train and I will send a force to co-operate.

I remain, general, your most obedient servant,

M. LA RUE HARRISON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. John I. Worthington, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

CAMP COMPANY H, FIRST ARKANSAS CAVALRY VOLS,
Fayetteville, Ark., September 16, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that in obedience to orders from regimental headquarters, I proceeded with ninety-nine mounted men of the First Arkansas Cavalry to escort the train going north on the 12th instant. On the 13th I left the train encamped at the Callahan Springs and went with seventy-five men to Bentonville, where we attacked and disbanded a squad of Brown's and Jefferson's men, killing 3. We returned and encamped with the train that night. On the 14th we left the train on Sugar Creek and marched to the Rodgers Crossing of White River. Here we encountered the combined forces of Carroll, Etter, and Raly, who were marching to attack the train near Keetsville. We charged and dispersed them, killing 5 men, and wounded a larger number, capturing Lieutenant Rogers, Eighth Missouri Infantry, Company L, and a Confederate mail. We then marched to the Shaw place on War Eagle Creek and from there to Fayetteville. On the entire scout of four days we killed 8 men and wounded some 10 or 12, captured 35 guns, and killed 11 horses. I was ably assisted by Lieutenants Jernigan and McGuire, of the First Arkansas Cavalry, and Lieutenant Eubanks, First Infantry. In the charge they were in the front and led [the] way with a gallantry that is seldom equaled and never excelled. The conduct of the non-commissioned officers and men could not be surpassed.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN I. WORTHINGTON,
Captain Company H, First Arkansas Cavalry, Comdg. Scout.

Lieut. JAMES ALLISON,
Acting Adjutant, 1st Arkansas Cav. Vols., Fayetteville, Ark.

SEPTEMBER 13, 1864.—Skirmish near Searcy, Ark.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

DEVALL'S BLUFF, *September 14, 1864—9 p. m.*

Sergeant Black and three privates, Ninth Iowa [Cavalry], of the party that left the steam-boat with dispatches for General West, got in to-day. Each of them was wounded three miles this side of Searcy, where they were attacked by superior numbers. Six out of the party were killed; 16 others taken prisoners.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. C. H. DYER.

SEPTEMBER 13, 1864.—Skirmish at Longwood, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

WARRENSBURG, *September 13, 1864.*

GENERAL: Major Kelly reports from Tipton bands of guerrillas south of the railroad, moving toward the Osage Hills and River; his troops in pursuit, number not stated. A band of thirty-five had a fight at Longwood this morning with Citizen Guards; result not known. Major Mullins had a skirmish near Dover on the 10th instant; captured 2 horses and 3 equipments. Do not know that any of the guerrillas were killed.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Saint Louis.

SEPTEMBER 13–17, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to Fausse River, La., with skirmishes near Bayou Maringouin (13th), near Rosedale (15th), and near Bayou Maringouin (16th).

Report of Lieut. Col. Asa L. Gurney, Second New York Veteran Cavalry.

HDQRS. SECOND NEW YORK STATE VET. CAVALRY VOLS.,
Morganza, La., September 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of a raid from which I have just returned:

Pursuant to Special Orders, No. 97, Cavalry Forces, Nineteenth Army Corps, I left camp with 125 men of my regiment at 8 p. m. of the 13th instant, and moved out on the Fordoche road, searching all the houses in which rebels were suspected of being secreted. At Mr. Downing's I encountered a party of fifteen rebels, and captured 1 man and 9 horses, with nearly all their arms and equipments. Arrived on Bayou Maringouin just before daylight. Captain Ratliff was sleeping with his wife in the house of Major Barrow. A gun fired just before I reached the house gave him the alarm, and he escaped by jumping from his bedroom window. His horse, pistols, &c., were captured. Colonel Sparks and Captain Barrow received the alarm by the firing of the same gun and escaped to the swamp. I halted until evening at the house of Colonel Sparks, when I moved down Bayou Maringouin to the place of Mr. Bogan, and halted the command for the night. On the morning of the 15th I moved across to Bayou Grossetete and encountered about sixty of the enemy near Rosedale. After a slight skirmish they fled to the woods to escape a charge made by a squadron of my command. Four miles below Rosedale I found a house containing a large quantity of dry goods, medicines, &c. The house was occupied by a Mr. Castle, who ran to the swamp upon our approach. Mrs. Castle had gone to New Orleans. I loaded the goods into a cart and brought them to camp. Camped for the night at Mrs. Mathews', at the junction of Bayous Grossetete and Maringouin. At daylight on the morning of the 16th forded Bayou Thomas; followed a bridle-path for about five miles, when I came upon the camp of Major Pryne and captured, after a brief skirmish,

Captain Gentles, 2 men, and a number of horses, arms, and equipments; would have captured the whole command, which consisted of Major Pryne, Captains Gentles and Williams, and about thirty men present, had not a single shot been fired when we were about a half mile from the camp, where we met a messenger going out. Camped for the night on Fausse River, and came into camp about 8 a. m. the 17th instant.

The following is a list of captures: Three or four thousand dollars' worth of dry goods, 25 horses, 10 mules, 15 pistols, 5 carbines, 8 shotguns, 4 prisoners of war, including 1 captain.

Mrs. Ratliff has been stopping at Major Barrow's about a week, and Captain Ratliff has staid with her nearly every night. She came out on Fausse River and waited nearly a whole day to see me; she stated her business to be looking for a mule, but I think her object was to see when I returned to camp and get what other information she could.

A. L. GURNEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. B. WILSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Forces.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1864.—Skirmish at Bullitt's Bayou, La.

Report of Capt. Thomas M. Elliott, Sixty-third U. S. Colored Troops.

HDQRS. DETACH. SIXTY-THIRD U. S. COLORED INFTY.,
Bullitt's Bayou, September 15, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report:

Yesterday, the 14th instant, about 8 a. m., a squad of rebels, numbering about fifteen, attacked our picket on the river-bank by slipping up through the brush. They killed 2 outright. They being mounted were soon out of reach of us. I followed them about one mile and a half with two companies, but finding it was useless I returned. They were commanded by Jo. Cause. There is nothing this side of the Tensas, I think, but this squad, commanded by the villain Jo. Cause.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

T. M. ELLIOTT,
Captain, Commanding.

Lieut. S. M. GUEST,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 14–21, 1864.—Scout in Texas County, Mo., with skirmish (18th) at Thomasville, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Capt. Clement G. Laurant, Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Capt. Ferdinand Charveaux, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Capt. Clement G. Laurant, Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army.

ROLLA, MO., *September 20, 1864.*

Capt. F. Charveaux, with a detachment of forty-five men from the Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, attacked Colonel Coleman's band

of rebels, from 160 to 200 strong, at Thomasville last Sunday morning. Twenty rebels were killed, 12 wounded, 9 captured; 28 horses and mules were also taken. Our loss 1 horse wounded.

C. G. LAURANT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Capt. J. F. BENNETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Ferdinand Charreaux, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

ROLLA, MO., *September 21, 1864.*

COLONEL: Pursuant to Special Orders, No. 154, from headquarters Post of Rolla, I left this post September 14 with Lieutenant Storz and forty-two enlisted men from Companies K and L, Fifth Cavalry Missouri State Militia: proceeded twenty-five miles on a cross-road toward Houston to James Clift's; I then rested and camped till next morning, September 15. I then started in the direction of Houston, arriving there in the evening: remained over night at the place of A. Jadwin's, near Houston. Next morning, September 16, I received information that several gangs of bushwhackers were in the country. I then started in a southwest direction with the expectation of meeting some. After traveling about six or seven miles I received information that about thirteen bushwhackers had passed through that country the night previous. I went to the house of Richmond, who is bushwhacking with his son. I ordered the things taken out of the houses and had the houses set on fire. I then proceeded five miles farther to the house of Absly, who is out with the bushwhackers, which I had burned in the manner of Richmond's. I went about three miles farther and received information that there was a gang of about fifty bushwhackers in the direction of Spring Valley; I tracked them about six miles, and lost their track through the woods and the hills. I stopped over night at Thomas Kinman's and started early next morning, September 17, to Spring Valley, where I received information that some rebels had been at Thomasville two or three days previous. I immediately proceeded in direct course for Thomasville, taking by roads. I stopped over night at the house of William H. Goldsberry's. Next morning, September 18, started toward Thomasville. After traveling about three miles I met a man who informed me that Colonel Coleman was to be at Thomasville with his command of about 300 men the night previous. I kept on my route, hastening my speed; six miles this side of Thomasville, at the house of Nallmesses, I was informed that Coleman had camped at Thomasville the night previous. When I arrived within one mile of Coleman's camp the advance guard captured a prisoner, who stated that Coleman had 300 men, but that there were only from 160 to 200 in camp. I used the prisoner as guide, and as soon as coming in sight of the camp, which was in a field, I gave the order to charge, which was promptly executed by my men, who were eager for the sport. After a half hour's skirmish the enemy were completely routed, killing 20 men and 1 captain (Taylor), captured 10 prisoners, 24 head of horses and 5 mules, nine saddles, and about 30 stand of small-arms, which I was obliged to have broken up except three guns that I brought in, as I

had not transportation or means to bring them here. No loss on our side except one horse slightly wounded. I then marched back to Goldsberry's and fed and went to S. Shopp's, where I stopped all night. Next morning, September 19, started in direction of Rolla. One prisoner in trying to escape was killed by one of my men. Stopped over night at William Thornton's, twelve miles this side of Houston. The next day, September 20, I came as far as Jackson's Mill on Little Piney, and arrived at Rolla to-day at 11 a. m., traveling on an average forty-five miles a day. The horses seemed very much fatigued.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FERD. CHARVEAUX,
Captain Co. L, Fifth Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Lieut. Col. J. A. EPPSTEIN,
Commanding Post.

SEPTEMBER 15-19, 1864.—Operations in Randolph, Howard, and Boone Counties, Mo., with skirmish (16th) at Columbia.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Joseph B. Douglass, commanding Eighth District, Enrolled Missouri Militia.

COLUMBIA, MO., *September 16, 1864.*

GENERAL.: I left Sturgeon yesterday morning with a detachment First Iowa Veteran Cavalry and a detachment Third Missouri State Militia; went into Randolph County. South of Huntsville struck the head of Perche Creek; followed down the creek. Late in the evening I found the trail of a body of rebels; followed them until night. Camped for the night, after traveling about thirty miles. Started early this morning; found that I was on the trail of Perkins, Pitney, Powell, and Bill Stevens, with seventy men. Ran on their pickets about eight miles north of Columbia, killing 1 and running the others three miles. The men scattered in every direction. I have two companies Forty-ninth Infantry in the brush, and learn that they had a skirmish with the rebels to-day, but did not learn the result. My impression is that the rebels are trying to cross the river. I will leave here early to-morrow morning, and intend to use every exertion in my power to exterminate these men. Will report from time to time, as I can find time to write and a post-office to send my letter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. DOUGLASS,
Brigadier-General.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK.

HDQRS. EIGHTH MIL. DIST., ENROLLED MISSOURI MIL.,
Mexico, September 20, 1864.

GENERAL: I arrived at Mexico last evening, having been out six days with 116 men First Iowa Cavalry and about sixty-five Third Missouri State Militia. From Sturgeon we traveled on an average about thirty miles per day, over the roughest portions of Randolph, Howard, and Boone, thoroughly scouring the brush on the Perche Creek, from its head in Randolph County to its mouth in Boone County. We killed

2 rebels, captured 2 boys in citizens dress, and not knowing at the time that they were bushwhackers held them as prisoners, but I now have the proof against them that they are bushwhackers. What must be done with them? The largest band found was sixty-six, but on being pursued they scattered and broke up into smaller bands. I found no evidence on the Missouri River of a concentration to cross over south, but found the rebels all over the country in small bands, fleeing and secreting themselves to save their lives from the storm that they seem to see coming. I think that many persons are deserting them and going to the Northern States for safety, and if we could have a first-rate detective on the railroads many of them might be caught.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. DOUGLASS,
Brigadier-General.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK,
Saint Joseph, Mo.

SEPTEMBER 16–25, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Morganza, La., with skirmishes at Williamsport (16th), at the Atchafalaya River (17th), and at Bayou Alabama and Morgan's Ferry (20th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Michael K. Lawler, U. S. Army, commanding U. S. forces at Morganza, La.

No. 2.—Col. Joshua J. Guppey, Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

No. 3.—Capt. James E. Willis, Eighty-seventh Illinois Infantry.

No. 4.—Lieut. Col. Asa L. Gurney, Second New York Veteran Cavalry.

No. 5.—Col. Henry N. Frisbie, Ninety-second U. S. Colored Troops, commanding First Brigade of Colored Troops.

No. 6.—Col. Alexander W. Terrell, Terrell's Texas Cavalry.

No. 1.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Michael K. Lawler, U. S. Army, commanding U. S. forces at Morganza, La.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., September 16, 1864.

A company of my men, temporarily detailed on the gun-boat Ozark, captured last night 5 prisoners, 4 horses, and some contrabands. A force of seventy-five men, sent yesterday evening to Williamsport, were attacked by a regiment of rebel cavalry and lost in killed and captured 39 men. I have dispatched Col. E. J. Davis with a heavy force of cavalry, supported by infantry, to intercept them if possible before they cross the Atchafalaya.

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHRISTENSEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of West Mississippi.

MORGANZA, LA., *September 20, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: Last night I sent Colonel Spicely with 2,000 men to Atchafalaya. This evening he crossed and occupies the position where the rebels had their battery, near Morgan's Ferry. I am sending out 1,000 additional men and will hold the point and place batteries in position on this side to cover the crossing.

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Captain TWINING,
Aide-de-Camp, Nineteenth Army Corps, New Orleans.

MORGANZA, LA., *September 21, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel Gurney, Second New York Cavalry, with 225 men made a raid into the lower part of this parish and captured yesterday, after a short skirmish, the camp of Captain Ratliff, 1 piece of artillery, a number of small-arms, 3 prisoners, 15 horses, a chest of medicine, and a large quantity of ammunition, clothing, and a rebel mail. The piece of artillery was spiked, filled with shell, and sunk in the middle of a bayou, in fifty feet of water. The road was impassable for artillery or wagons, and hence the gun was destroyed. What ammunition could not be brought off was thrown into the bayou. The camp, which consisted of houses, barns, negro quarters, and a saw-mill, was burned.

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHRISTENSEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MORGANZA, LA., *September 21, 1864.*

It is not the intention to send troops any farther than to Morgan's Ferry, about thirteen miles. I have one brigade and two batteries there, and can withdraw at any time inside of five hours. The occupation of that point enables us to keep thoroughly posted in reference to the movements of the enemy, and also to collect beef and forage, the former of which we are much in need. I have just heard from Colonel Spicely. He reports that the enemy are returning to Alexandria on account of the scarcity of subsistence.

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHRISTENSEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, New Orleans.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., September 22, 1864.

In addition to the articles reported to you as captured in the camp of Captain Ratliff, I have to report 74,000 musket water-proof percussion caps, 22 ounces quinine, 5 pounds opium, and other medicines, estimated in value by our surgeon at $384.

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHRISTENSEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, New Orleans.

No. 2.

Report of Col. Joshua J. Guppey, Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 2D DIV., 19TH ARMY CORPS,
Morganza, September 18, 1864.

SIR: Pursuant to orders from General Lawler, I marched from this place in support of Colonel Davis on the 16th instant, with the One hundred and sixty-first New York, Lieutenant-Colonel Kinsey commanding; the Twenty-third Wisconsin, Lieutenant-Colonel Hill commanding, and the Seventy-fifth and Ninety-second U. S. Colored Infantry; the last two named regiments reporting to me under their brigade commander, Colonel Frisbie. I marched nineteen miles during the night, two miles farther than was necessary, owing to want of exact information on the part of the guide, but after correcting my position, I went into camp at the head of Bayou Letsworth, on the ground where our men had been captured that morning. Colonel Davis was proceeding down this bayou toward Simsport, and our camp was within three miles of the rear of his column at the time of our halt, but I had not established direct communication with him. In the morning we followed his force seven miles toward Simsport, when we met a messenger from Colonel Davis informing me that the rebels had got across the river and that the cavalry was on its return. I halted till Colonel Davis came up, and his information confirming what I had been told, viz, that it was twenty-five miles to Morgan's Ferry by any practicable route from where we were, and the object of my joining Colonel Spicely having ceased to exist by the escape of the rebels to the north side of the Atchafalaya, I decided to return to Morganza. Colonel Davis gave me 200 cavalry and preceded me with the rest of his force on the return. I marched back about fourteen miles and went into camp at 5.30 p. m., having made forty miles in less than twenty-four hours. This morning I came to camp here, marching about ten miles. My command suffered no loss while out, but many of my men are very foot-sore.

I regret to state that this morning, while Colonel Frisbie was with the rear guard and I was at the head of the column, many men of the Ninety-second Colored Infantry broke from their ranks and commenced stealing poultry, &c. As soon as advised of their actions I put them in order in such a manner that they made no further attempts at pillaging. The Seventy-fifth Colored Infantry is an excellently behaved regiment and I could not but admire their good behavior while the Ninety-second were straggling about houses and yards this morning. The lieutenant-colonel of the Seventy-fifth seems to be an excellent disciplinarian. I have no fault to find with the Ninety-second, except the acts of pillage above named, and Colonel Frisbie assures me that the guilty ones shall be properly dealt with.

I have with reluctance mentioned this matter, that no imputation may rest on my own character as an officer.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. GUPPEY,
Colonel, Commanding Expedition.

Capt. B. WILSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. James E. Willis, Eighty-seventh Illinois Infantry.

MORGANZA, LA., *September 18, 1864.*

SIR: I would respectfully submit the following report of the scout from Eighty-seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry and First Louisiana Cavalry, on the 15th and 16th instant, of which I was commander:

The scout was composed of Captain Sheridan, with fifty men from the Eighty-seventh Illinois, and Lieutenant Shaffer, with twenty-five men from the First Louisiana. We moved out on the up-river road at 3 p. m. and encamped near Pringle's about dark. We moved up the river next morning, 16th instant, about sunrise. At Williamsport a picket was found, but dispersed when fired on by our advance. Here Captain Sheridan was left with forty men. I went up the river with Lieutenant Shaffer and thirty-five men; finding no enemy we returned. On arriving at the point where Captain Sheridan was stationed, we were fired on by a rebel picket. We soon found one of our men dead and another severely wounded. Supposing Sheridan had been driven toward Morganza, we pushed down the river expecting to cut through the rebs and join Sheridan, but after passing below the rebs we learned that but one of Sheridan's men had passed; that the remainder had been captured was evident, so we pushed on toward camp as fast as possible. Of the party with Sheridan, 1 was killed, 2 wounded; one of the wounded died in three hours and the other was brought in by a scout and one escaped. In the hands of the enemy, 1 captain and 31 men from Eighty-seventh Illinois, and 5 men from First Louisiana Cavalry.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES E. WILLIS,
Captain.

Captain WILSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 4.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Asa L. Gurney, Second New York Veteran Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY FORCES,
Fausse River, La., September 21, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Left camp with 225 of my command at 9 p. m. the 19th and arrived at Bayou Alabama at 7.30 next a. m. after the hardest march I ever had. Crossed the bayou, captured the camp of Captain Ratliff after a short skirmish, and returned to this camp, where I arrived at 1 p. m. to-day, having fed my men and horses but once in the time, as the march was through woods and swamps. Captured at the camp of Captain Ratliff, 1 piece of artillery, 3 carbines, 6 pistols, 4 sabers, 3 prisoners of war, 15 horses, 4 saddles, large chest of medicines, large quantity of clothing and ammunition, and a large mail. Spiked the piece of artillery, filled it with shell, &c., and sunk it in the middle of the bayou after dismounting it. Water about fifty feet deep. Had no means of bringing it away and the roads were impassable for artillery.

What ammunition could not be brought away was thrown in the bayou or burned with the building. Burned the whole camp, which consisted of houses, barns, negro quarters, and a saw-mill. Too much cannot be said in the praise of Lieutenant Westinghouse and Sergeant Cadwell, of my regiment, who swam across the bayou in front of the enemy's sharpshooters and brought across the flat-boat by which I crossed my men.

Inclosed I send you a few of the letters captured; will send more and report more particularly as soon as I can get time. The citizen prisoner, Howard, was arrested, as Mrs. Frank Harding, of Bayou Grossetete, accused him of coming with Captain Pryne and arresting her husband and sending him across the Atchafalaya for during the war on account of his Union sentiments and because he took the oath of allegiance.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. GURNEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Captain B. WILSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND VETERAN CAVALRY, NEW YORK VOLS.,
Morganza, La., September 22, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Pursuant to orders I left camp with a detachment of my regiment at 7 a. m. the 19th instant, with five days' rations, camp equipage, &c., and halted at 10 p. m. at Poydras' College, on Fausse River, where I established a camp and sent orders to the detachment of cavalry at Grossetete Bayou to report to me by direction of General Lawler. At 9 p. m. the 20th instant left my camp with 225 men (leaving fifty men to guard camp) and moved out to Bayou Maringouin, where I searched every house. At the house of Wiley Barrow I left the bayou and went straight back into the swamp, and after passing over a very muddy road through an almost impenetrable swamp, arrived at Bayou Alabama at 7.30 a. m., having been five hours going over eight miles of road. Halted my command one-third of a mile from the bayou and dismounted my men to fight on foot. Went forward myself to ascertain the position of the enemy; found an island in my front from which some of the enemy were bathing. Width of the bayou to the island about fifty yards. On the opposite bank a camp fire, one piece of artillery in position, a hut surrounded by camp kettles, &c., and three or four men in the water. A flat-boat lay at the opposite bank directly under the piece of artillery. Posted sharpshooters behind trees, stumps, &c., to keep the artillery silent and cover a crossing. Brought up my men, while Lieut. Albert Westinghouse, Company B, and Sergeant Cadwell, Company B, both of my regiment, swam the bayou and brought across the flat-boat, by which I was able to cross thirty men at a time. The enemy disappeared in the woods upon seeing us. Sixty men across and I commenced moving at a double-quick into the woods; came upon the camp of Captain Ratliff after one mile and a half march and captured it with but a slight skirmish. The camp consisted of wooden buildings, houses, barns, negro quarters, and a saw-mill, all of which I burned, except a few quarters occupied by old negroes. Captured at this camp 1 piece of artillery, a few carbines, sabers, and pistols, a large amount of ammunition, including artillery, carbine, and pistol powder, percussion caps, &c., five dozen pairs pants, eight dozen shirts, large supply of commissary stores, camp equipage, &c., also 15 horses, 3 prisoners of war, and a large mail. I was unable

to bring away but a very small quantity of the captured stores on account of the bad roads. Many places my men had to dismount and lead their horses, having many bayous to ford and never finding a bridge. I spiked the piece of artillery and sunk it in the middle of the bayou, first dismounting it; water about fifty feet deep and very soft bottom. Destroyed everything of value not brought away. Found at the camp Mrs. Ratliff, the captain's wife. Returned by another road, striking the State road at Robert I. Barrow's, five miles above Livonia; halted at sundown at John Lombard's, where we fed and rested for the first time since the day before. My men were very much fatigued, the work performed by them being of the most laborious character. Resumed the march at 7 a. m. the next day and arrived at my camp on Fausse River at 1 p. m. Broke camp on Fausse River at 7 a. m. 22d instant, and arrived at this camp at 12 m. I was informed by Mrs. Frank Harding that her husband was arrested by Confederate authority and confined for during the war for taking the oath of allegiance to the United States and for friendliness to our soldiers.

The order was issued for his arrest upon an application signed by Mr. Pullman, of Grossetete Bayou, Mr. Mathews, at junction of Fordoche and Grossetete Bayous; Mr. Ciberth, of Fausse River; Rev. Mr. Smiley, Grossetete; Robert I. Barrow, State road above Grossetete. Mr. Howard, whom I arrested, conducted Captain Pryne and men to arrest Frank Harding and assisted in the arrest. I would respectfully recommend that the parties causing the arrest of Mr. Harding be arrested and confined until Mr. Harding is released and returned to his family, which is very large and poor.

The following were the troops under my command on this expedition: Second Veteran Cavalry, New York Volunteers, 234 men; First Texas Cavalry Volunteers, 75 men; total, 309.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. GURNEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. B. WILSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Forces.

No. 5.

Report of Col. Henry N. Frisbie, Ninety-second U. S. Colored Troops, commanding First Brigade of Colored Troops.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, U. S. COLORED TROOPS,
Morganza, La., September 24, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report the safe return of my command. Colonel Guppey, of the Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry, having other troops, directed the march, which continued all night. Soon after daylight we reached the point of our destination, which was Morgan's Ford, on the Atchafalaya River, where we found quite a force under command of Colonel Spicely, Twenty-fourth Indiana Infantry, and who treated us courteously and gentlemanly throughout the time I was under his command. For two days we worked at fatigue, building lunettes for the artillery and cutting roads in the woods, so they could be approached under cover. Some officers, apparently acting by authority, seemed hardly able to find enough for the colored troops to do. Lieutenant-Colonel Pearsall, of the Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored

Infantry (engineers), who was in charge of the works, became disgusted and returned to Morganza. Some beef procured by a detail from my command from over the river, by permission of Colonel Spicely, for the benefit of the troops, who were suffering some from scurvy, was, in my temporary absence, taken by a cavalry officer, who represented it to be by my order. I am sorry to say there are persons wearing the uniform of a U. S. officer who will not scruple to tell a falsehood to gain some petty advantage and use his uniform to deceive a "poor nigger," and afterward tell his smartness (shame) to his fellows, and then with the air of a clown look around for applause. The evening before we left some buildings on the other side of the river were burned. There seemed to be a general disposition to accuse the colored troops of doing it, and Colonel Spicely seemed to believe the report, and would probably have officially so reported it if I had not positively assured him to the contrary, from indisputable evidence in my possession; but they could not accuse them of burning the buildings the night before they came, the ruins of which were still smoldering, and which was just as wanton an act as the other. Some white soldiers on the road were catching fowls, and no effort was made to stop them. When some officers sent in some of their men to get water a white guard was sent immediately to arrest them to prevent, as was alleged, their plundering, yet no stop was put to the operation of the others. On the return but few men were unable to march and keep up, and not a dozen had to be carried, and in this respect they far exceeded the white troops. In fact, they march as well as any white troops with which they have come in contact. Some sixteen recruits were obtained, and about 150 contrabands. A patient and systematic effort would probably bring to light many recruits, but great pains are taken to hide this class of persons on the approach of our forces. The migration of so many women and children is not encouraged, as they are an incumbrance to the army, and it is not beneficial to themselves. If some officers with a few mounted men are permitted to accompany the cavalry many more recruits could be obtained; but as it is, when they go they have no interest, and in fact discourage the coming of these persons. The policy of breaking up brigades and then mixing white and black regiments to form a new one for raiding purposes temporarily is exceedingly injudicious and productive of much evil and disorganization, and but little good can come of it. No white troops lifted an ax or a spade while out on that trip to work, yet the colored troops marched as far, did as much guard duty, and would probably have fought as hard as the other troops, as they carried as much ammunition and were as well armed, and while the rest lay in the shade we were hard at work.

The constant violation of orders from the War Department by so many commanders falling temporarily in command of colored troops has been the subject of remark and complaint so long that it seems useless to complain again or to mention it, for I have almost ceased to expect justice from any one, for if they will not obey and respect the published orders of the Secretary of War, neither will they those of General Canby, for he has republished this order that prohibits colored troops being required to do an excess of work or fatigue duty over and above those with whom they are associated. The work is no objection to either officers or men, but the manner and the circumstances under which it is required. The slur and stigma of inferiority is what displeases so many officers and makes it so difficult to keep our best officers, for they will not command troops that the Government allows inferiority to become attached to, for they say if the Government

wants bosses or overseers let them so be employed from those who want the position; but while they bear commissions they want only their fair share of fatigue, but will do any amount of fighting. The people along the road of this raid and the one previous seemed terror-stricken at the sight of black troops, and in future, if every raid is answered by black troops, you will soon not hear of one this side of the Atchafalaya River, yet they behaved in a soldierly manner and were at all times under strict discipline. The distance between this place and the Atchafalaya River is so near on a straight line that a couple of regiments could probably in a week make a good road between two points. The value of holding the line of that river is so manifest to one who will look at the subject that probably only very great interests elsewhere have so far prevented, but with this road the same force that holds the Mississippi could also hold that and give quiet and security from Turnbull Island to Bayou La Fourche, and yet be as available in three hours as if at Morganza. An intrenched camp on the west side of that river to cover the operations of the cavalry up and down the river and toward Opelousas, flanked by batteries on the east bank, would make the position impregnable, and no raid need be apprehended from the certainty of its destruction if attempted. The force at Morganza would answer the purpose, and when they are withdrawn, concentrate the troops between here and the Brashear City Railroad, and its occupation would include within our lines a very rich country from which considerable supplies for the enemy are now being drawn, and the abundance of timber would enable us quickly and cheaply to construct a telegraph and keep the wagon road in good order.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. N. FRISBIE,
Colonel Ninety-second U. S. Colored Infantry, Commanding.

Lieut. O. A. RICE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 6.

Report of Col. Alexander W. Terrell, Terrell's Texas Cavalry.

HDQRS. TERRELL'S BRIGADE, BAGBY'S DIVISION,
Evergreen, September 27, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 20th instant at 3 a. m. a Federal force from Morganza moved against my position at Morgan's Ferry. My advance pickets, who were stationed at a secret post, gave information that one battery of four guns with an advance of cavalry passed the secret post at 2.30 a. m., and that other artillery was approaching with a large body of cavalry. Information which had been received from persons trusted and relied on by me on the 18th compelled the conviction in my mind that a comparatively large force would move from Morganza, with the design to cross and drive me from the line of the Atchafalaya.

On the 17th I had fought a force of Federals, estimated at 4,000 strong, with six pieces of cannon (Nims' battery), and succeeded in driving it back with considerable loss. Owing to this fact I was the better satisfied that the threatened attack on the 20th would be with a heavier force and more mettle than that with which the action was fought

on the 17th. One day's fighting with a careful and critical examination of the situation had convinced me that if a systematic effort was made by the enemy he could take the battery and most of its sharpshooter support. For that reason I had ordered the battery to change its position to a point higher up the Bayou Atchafalaya until works of protection could be constructed to avoid its being subjected to an enfilading fire from the northeast and southwest.

On the morning of the 20th the enemy approached very leisurely, halting out of range, and commenced the construction of an impromptu bridge across Muscle Shoal Bayou, as also the opening of a road leading to the river below the mouth of the Muscle Shoal Bayou. Before daylight the enemy had passed two pieces of cannon along the north base of Cowhead Bayou Dyke, and moved them muffled to a point through the woods, from which part of the levee on the west side of the river could be enfiladed. The work on the bridge and in opening the road to the south of my position continued. The design of the enemy was made apparent at an early hour. It was to outflank me on the right, cross the river where there was no levee on the west side, and take me in the rear, or else move by the railroad grade and cut off my retreat through the swamp.

Under date of the 18th of September I received written instructions from the brigadier-general commanding cavalry south of Red River to "risk nothing in the way of being captured, and that if an attempt is made to cross in above or below to fall back at once." My action was controlled in a great measure by these instructions. On the first alarm I had ordered my trains and sick to the rear. As the force of the enemy developed itself the artillery was ordered to move in retreat, and when preparations were made to cross by cutting the road down the river below me, the regiments were ordered back, except three companies in charge of Lieutenant Walton, assistant adjutant-general, who was left to watch the motions of the enemy, retard their crossing, and skirmish with them through the swamp. At 3 p. m. the enemy succeeded in throwing across the river two miles below Morgan's Ferry a body of 300 or 400 infantry, or dismounted cavalry, which moved thence up the river in rear and flank of the position from which I fought on the 17th. As they advanced the pickets thrown out by Lieutenant Walton retired and rejoined their respective companies. The Thirty-fifth Cavalry retired by the Faulkner's Ferry road, destroying the pontoon bridge thrown across Bayou Rouge. Moved to Rutledge's, and there awaited to form a junction with the Thirty-fourth Regiment, which retreated by way of the Atchafalaya and Washington road. The First Texas Cavalry was ordered to fall back from Simsport, leaving small pickets on the river toward Evergreen, skirmishing with the enemy if an advance were made, and to await at Evergreen for a junction with the other regiments of the brigade. No stand was made in the swamp with the two regiments because of the ability of the enemy to take me in flank or rear, or cut off my line of retreat if the railroad grade were traveled by them with that intent, between which and the Atchafalaya and Washington road no communication by cavalry could be kept up. As soon as I was safe from capture I occupied the first available and defensible position and placed my regiments in line, the one in rear of the other one-half mile. In this position I remained until relieved by Brigadier-General Debray, one regiment of whose brigade was thrown in advance.

From the best information I can obtain the Federal force consisted of 3,000 or 4,000 men and twelve pieces of cannon, the larger portion of which did not cross the bayou. My own force which could be used

in fight after guarding the line of the river did not exceed 100 men and four pieces of cannon with the men of the battery. What force of the enemy crossed the river I am unable to determine.

Deserters who were sent forward to brigade headquarters yesterday were among those who crossed in boats brought from Morganza, swimming their horses.

I am aware of the fact that my retreat from Morgan's Ferry is censured by the citizens living near that point, not one of whom came to my relief on the 17th, when from daylight until dark I remained at the battery with less than a hundred men fighting several thousand.

I have forgotten to mention that the ammunition for the battery was nearly exhausted in the engagement on the 17th, and no supply had been received on the 20th, though a courier had been started to send it by express.

I have the honor, major, to remain your obedient servant,

A. W. TERRELL,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. ROBERT M. FRANKLIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEPTEMBER 18, 1864.—Skirmish near Lexington, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 2.—Lieut. William Kessinger, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

WARRENSBURG, MO., *September 19, 1864.*

I learn by telegraph from Lexington that 150 guerrillas attacked a camp of thirty militia in Ray County, seven miles from Lexington, yesterday evening. The militia were badly cut up. The guerrillas started in the direction of Hardin, down the Missouri River. This is probably the band that crossed below Dover.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of the Missouri.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. William Kessinger, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

LEXINGTON, *September 19, 1864.*

Yesterday evening 150 guerrillas attacked the camp of thirty militia in Ray County, seven miles from here. The militia retreated and were severely cut up; particulars not yet ascertained. The guerrillas started in the direction of Hardin, down the Missouri River.

WM. KESSINGER,
Lieutenant, Commanding.

Captain STEGER,
Warrensburg.

SEPTEMBER 18–OCTOBER 5, 1864.—Scout on the Cimarron River in Northeastern New Mexico.

Report of Capt. Nicholas S. Davis, First California Infantry.

FORT UNION, N. MEX., *October 7, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I left the crossing of the Arkansas on September 18, and arrived at Lower Springs of Cimarron on the 20th, Major Updegraff arriving there the same day. Found water at Battle-Ground, but none from there to Lower Springs, a distance of forty miles, except a little at Sand Creek, found by digging. Believing that there would not be sufficient water on the Cimarron for all the animals under my escort to camp together (over 2,000), I left on the 21st with one-half of my command, escorting the mule trains, leaving Lieutenant Edmiston with the other half to escort the beef-cattle and ox trains, with instructions to start the following day and join me at the Rabbit Ear, where I would await him. I arrived there on the 28th and was joined by Lieutenant Edmiston on the 30th, who reported having left the ox trains at Cold Spring, near Captain Bergmann's camp, the cattle requiring rest. The owners of the beef-cattle wishing to graze their cattle at Rabbit Ear, and believing it safe from Indians, I left October 1, arriving at Fort Union October 5, without loss of men or material, having been absent sixty-three days and marched 912 miles. I have not seen an Indian during this march, except one boy who came into camp on the night of September 16, representing that he was a Ute who had been taken prisoner by the Comanches, and from whom he had escaped four days before arrival in my camp. This Indian I have brought in and now hold subject to your orders. It is my opinion that the depredations have been committed by Kiowas and Comanches; that the stock stolen has been taken to the south on the Canadian and its tributaries, and that trains can travel safely with small escort if proper precautions are taken in camping. My thanks are due to Lieutenant Edmiston for efficient aid rendered.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NICHOLAS S. DAVIS,
Captain, First Infantry California Volunteers.

Colonel SELDEN,
Commanding Fort Union.

SEPTEMBER 20–25, 1864.—Scout in La Fayette County, Mo., with skirmish (23d) on the Arrow Rock Road.

Report of Lieut. Col. Thomas T. Crittenden, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAMP NEAR SEDALIA, MO., *September 28, 1864.*

COLONEL: In compliance with Special Orders, No. —, from headquarters District of Central Missouri, I reported to the general commanding said district on the afternoon of the 20th instant, at the depot of the Pacific Railroad, at Warrensburg, Mo., with eighty commissioned and non-commissioned officers and privates of the Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia; thence proceeded by rail, under the general, to Tipton, Mo., where I remained with my command until the morning of the 22d

instant, when I received Special Orders (Field), No. 2, to proceed with the detachment of the Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, by the way of Dug Ford, on the La Mine, and into the eastern portion of La Fayette County, Mo., thoroughly scouting the country in search of any bands of guerrillas which may be infesting the country. I moved from Tipton in obedience to said orders; traveled northwest in the direction of the Dug Ford, on the La Mine River, until I reached the camp of Captain Vansickler, Company L, Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia. Held a consultation with him; learned that forty rebels, under some unknown leader, had passed twelve hours preceding that time at Dug Ford. I deemed it best to place a guard in ambush of Captain Vansickler's company of the Fourth Cavalry Missouri State Militia; then to assume a more westwardly direction; cross the La Mine six miles above the Dug Ford, at the Willow Ford; move out upon the Buffalo Prairie, at the same time vigilantly guarding this latter ford, thereby sincerely desiring to make this chief passway between Saline and Cooper Counties somewhat memorable in the minds of lawless desperadoes. This move was quietly made after night, no living resident being cognizant at the time that Federals had bivouacked in that section of the country. This concluded the first day's march from Tipton, being thirty miles.

At daylight next morning I moved five miles in the direction of Arrow Rock, ascertaining no movements of any gangs demanding attention. I proceeded west on the north side of Blackwater fifteen miles, and as we were moving along the Arrow Rock and Brownsville road we came upon five guerrillas, the leader being Bill Jackson (it is supposed from facts learned of citizens), upon whom my advanced guard opened fire immediately. With the rapidity of thought the trained guerrillas dashed recklessly through the scrubby oaks down and up the most precipitous hills, rendered more ragged by the accumulated quantity of unsettled stone upon their sides. My command pursued with the same fearless horsemanship, making the woods ring with the clear report of their guns. One guerrilla was killed. I lost none from my command. I suppose this small gang was a detachment from the main body, which I afterward learned was so handsomely defeated by a command of the First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, under Major Mullins. I learned from the citizens that after this defeat, which was entirely unexpected, they scattered over the country, many without hats and coats, and at times two on one horse, in the most alarmed condition. I then moved with my command near Buck Snort, in Saline County, and encamped during the night, having traveled twenty-five miles. I moved my command early next morning nine miles back over the road traveled the previous day to the intersection of the old Boonville and Marshall road with the Arrow Rock and Marshall road; marched in an eastwardly direction, crossed the Blackwater at Hunt's Ford, and most thoroughly scouted the country through the Blackwater Hills (the dark, dense, untrodden haunts of dishonest and lawless men), fully expecting to surprise small squads of the band defeated by Major Mullins the day previous. Frequent trails of the gangs could be seen, but they had fled toward the Missouri River. Distance traveled on this day was twenty-five miles. Being out of rations, having been ordered to return to Warrensburg on the 25th instant, and having learned from the citizens that Major Mullins' command had moved to Sedalia hurriedly, I supposed some unexpected movement of the enemy was taking place; hence I moved on to Warrensburg. I am fully under the belief that there are not more than fifty guerrillas, if concentrated, on Blackwater. Numbers are greatly exaggerated by themselves for obvious

purposes. I reached Warrensburg Sunday night; distance, forty miles. I captured an elegant gray mare, property of the bushmen; turned her over to Capt. Joel K. Shaw, assistant quartermaster, Warrensburg, Mo.

Permit me to say, colonel, that the officers and men behaved with great propriety during the scout. I did not have a complaint made to me during my absence. I take special and particular pleasure in directing your attention to the excellency of Thompson Allison as a guide and scout. He excels any man I ever saw acting in that capacity. His example, his conduct, his vigilance, and his bravery are very commendable. I take pride in recommending him to those in authority. William Chester is a worthy man, of whom too much cannot be said as a Government guide and detective—brave, active, and ever ready.

I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

T. T. CRITTENDEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

Col. JOHN F. PHILIPS,
Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

SEPTEMBER 21, 1864.—Affair near Council Grove, Kans.

Report of Lieut. Asa R. Bancroft, Seventeenth Kansas Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS POST,
Council Grove, September 23, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following difficulty with some of the Kaw Indians:

On the 21st instant one of my men (Thomas Roberts), a teamster, was hunting his mules in the timber, near the camp, when two Indians assaulted him with their knives and swore they would kill him if he did not give them whisky. He told them that he had none, and struck one of them with his whip, knocking him down. They once got him down and came near killing him, but he finally succeeded in getting away from them, and came to camp and reported the matter to me. In order to be certain of procuring the offenders I sent two or three squads of men into the brush with orders to bring into camp every Indian they found. They returned with eight, none of them the ones who attacked Roberts, and were all of them released the following morning. They, however, caught one of the offenders, and after they had taken him Roberts came up and the Indian drew his knife and again started for Roberts, swearing he would kill him. Roberts had a musket and stuck the bayonet into him, from which wound I think he will die. I have done the best I could in the way of medical attendance for the wounded Indian. These Indians are generally peaceable except when drunk, which was the case with these two, as well as some others that were taken. My men did some shooting, but they report that it was done to make them stop, and that they all fired in the air; and as I have heard of no others wounded, I conclude that to be the fact. If there is any blame attached to any one I think it must rest on citizens who sell whisky to the Indians, and the agent informs me that there are without doubt numbers in this place who do it. I am using exertion to find out who furnished them whisky.

I am, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

A. R. BANCROFT,
First Lieut. Co. C, 17th Kansas Vol. Infty, Commanding Post.

Lieut. J. E. TAPPAN,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fort Riley, Kans.

SEPTEMBER 22, 1864.—Skirmish at Carthage, Mo.

Report of Maj. Milton Burch, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

NEOSHO, *September 23, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that Carthage was burned by the guerrillas yesterday, and the troops sent there to hold Carthage had a fight with the guerrillas at Carthage and drove them; particulars not known. I received my information from women [who] came from near Carthage. I have information there is some 75 or 100 guerrillas in the neighborhood of Baxter Springs. I have no additional news from the south. I will send out a spy south to-day or to-morrow. I will keep a close watch south, and I do not think a large force can get near me without my being apprised of their approach.

General, I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

MILTON BURCH,
Major, Commanding Post.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

SEPTEMBER 22, 1864.—Skirmish near Longwood, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

SEDALIA, *September 26, 1864.*

Major Mullins, First Missouri State Militia [Cavalry], had a skirmish with Bill Jackson and Tom Woodson's band, numbering about 123, on Thursday evening, about six miles north of Longwood. They killed a number of the enemy (they report 10), with several wounded; captured several horses, arms, provisions, and clothing. The rebels had pack-animals loaded with clothing, and in some cases country-made hard bread. They reported that they had fifteen days' subsistence. No enemy reported in Cooper County.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Saint Louis.

SEPTEMBER 22–28, 1864.—Scout from Helena to Alligator Bayou, Ark.

Report of Lieut. Alexander F. Rice, Sixtieth U. S. Colored Troops.

HDQRS. BATTERY D, FORTIFICATIONS HELENA,
Helena, Ark., September 29, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit my report of a scout of six days' duration, commencing on the 22d and ending on the 28th of September, 1864:

The undersigned, in command of twenty-one men from Sixtieth U. S. Colored Infantry, left Helena 5 p. m. 22d September, and marched to Ramsey's Ferry, on the Saint Francis River; crossed the river and marched up the river one mile and camped at Staton's at 2 a. m. September 23; moved again at 6 o'clock up the river, arrived and

camped in the canebrake, within one mile of Alligator Bayou at 8 p. m.; captured one horse, found tied in the brush, belonging to John Maley; picketed the roads; sent six men to watch some houses for deserters from the Fourth Arkansas Cavalry. They captured one deserter by the name of Benjamin Davis, belonging to Company I, Fourth Arkansas Cavalry. They also secured the same night Stephen Oatman, who gave himself up voluntarily; 7 a. m. 24th marched one mile to the mouth of Alligator Bayou, picketed the roads, and camped until daylight. On the morning of the 25th marched to Ball's Point; pressed in horses enough to mount ten men. Finding there was no rebel force in the vicinity, I sent a sergeant and ten men in charge of the prisoners, with a guide, through the canebrakes to Hamlin's Landing, with orders to keep themselves secreted, with a picket to watch the road, and for them to remain there until I arrived. I, taking ten men mounted, with Hardin and two citizens, proceeded to Burnt Cane Bend and Cut-Off, on Saint Francis River, also to the head of Fifteen Mile Bayou and Mud Lake. Captured in the rounds 4 prisoners, 3 horses, 1 mule, and 1 revolver; camped at Palmer's plantation midnight; moved on the morning of the 26th to Council Bend, arriving there at 11 a. m. At 3 o'clock the same day I took five men and proceeded to Alligator Bayou to collect some cattle; arrived there at 8 a. m.; left Hardin with the men and prisoners at Council Bend, with instructions for him to take five men on the morning of the 27th and proceed up the river some five miles to collect some cattle. He, hearing of some rebels when he got there, started in pursuit, came upon their party, numbering six, and he reports that he killed 2 of them; the rest escaped. He captured three double-barreled guns and broke them because he could not bring them away. This near Fifteen Mile Bayou. He came back in the evening, capturing on his return 2 prisoners, 1 a deserter from Battery E, Second U. S. Colored Artillery (light); the other claimed to be a citizen, but had a furlough on his person, which he claims to have written himself, for the purpose of keeping him from being conscripted in the rebel army. On the morning of the 27th I started at daylight to collect some cattle, and proceeded with them to Council Bend, bringing some belonging to a man by the name of Cook, that was out with me on the scout, arriving at Council Bend at 12 o'clock. The boat having arrived we proceeded to put the cattle on board. The second squad that were after cattle succeeded in getting about sixty head within one mile and a half of the boat, then had to leave them on account of its being too dark to see to drive them. That night left Hardin and eight men on shore mounted, taking the prisoners and balance of the men on the boat, and anchored out in the river until morning. In the morning landed and took six men and went in search of the cattle, but could not find them, they having strayed off in the canebrake; then went on board the boat, started for Helena, and arrived here at five o'clock last evening. Two of our prisoners, named Benjamin Davis and John West, escaped September 26. Davis escaped in the morning at daylight, through neglect of duty of the guard, he going asleep. West escaped in the evening, through the window of the house where the prisoners were kept. We captured and brought in, all told, 5 horses, 1 mule, 14 head of cattle, and 1 revolver.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. F. RICE,
Lieutenant, Commanding Scout.

Lieut. WILLIAM CHANDLER,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Eastern Arkansas, Helena.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1864.—Skirmish at Walnut Creek, Kans.

Report of Maj. Gen. James G. Blunt, U. S. Army, commanding District of Upper Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF UPPER ARKANSAS,
In the Field, Fort Larned, Kans., September 29, 1864.

MAJOR: For the information of the major-general commanding the department, I have the honor to report that I left this post on the 22d instant, at 4 a. m., with about 400 men and two mountain howitzers, provided with ten days' rations of hard bread and half that amount of bacon. It was my intention to have gone south of the Arkansas upon Crooked Creek and the Cimarron; but on arriving at the crossing of the river, sixty miles west of this post, on the evening of the 23d, I learned that a force from the Department of New Mexico was at the Cimarron Springs, and that a large party of Indians were camped on the Smoky Hill. At 4 o'clock on the morning of the 24th I left camp on the Santa Fé road, and marched north, reaching a point that night within eight or ten miles of Pawnee Fork. At 3 a. m. of the 25th I continued my march directly north, and at the first dawn of day reached the Pawnee, where the command was halted and a party sent up the creek in search of a crossing. They had proceeded about half a mile when they returned and reported the discovery of an Indian lodge and some ponies. I immediately sent out a small party of men to reconnoiter, and soon heard a brisk firing. By this time it had become sufficiently light to discover that they were pursuing the Indians up the creek, and I sent Major Anthony with Companies M and L, of the First Colorado Cavalry, to re-enforce them. After waiting over an hour, and hearing nothing from Major Anthony, I started up the creek with the remainder of the command, and after proceeding about one mile I discovered the small force under Major Anthony surrounded on all sides by the Indians, and gallantly fighting their way back. As soon as the Indians discovered that I was coming up with the remainder of the force they ceased fighting and commenced to retreat.

Major Anthony had followed the first party of Indians up the creek about six miles (the Indians all the time increasing in force), when he found himself overwhelmed by numbers. He then attempted to send messengers back to me and commenced to fall back. The messengers were cut off by the Indians and did not reach me. My loss is 1 killed, 1 missing (supposed to be killed), and 7 wounded. We found 9 dead Indians. More are supposed to have been killed, as many were seen to fall from their horses, but were immediately carried off the ground. I pursued them on their retreat two days, until my stock becoming exhausted and subsistence consumed (no buffalo in that region), I was compelled to abandon the chase. From the head of Pawnee the Indians crossed to Smoky Hill, and there were many evidences of their having retreated in great haste. Their main camp was about ten miles up the Pawnee from where we first attacked their picket, and numbered not less than 4,000, 1,500 of whom at least were warriors, Cheyennes and Arapahoes. There is little doubt but this party of Indians were moving down for a raid upon the Santa Fé road or the frontier settlements. If so, their designs for the present are defeated. It was clearly demonstrated in the fight on the 25th instant that the Indian warriors ride fleeter horses than ours, and that their war parties cannot be pursued with success.

JAS. G. BLUNT,
Major-General.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of Kansas.*

SEPTEMBER 25–OCTOBER 13, 1864.—Expedition from Little Rock to Fort Smith, Ark., with skirmishes at Clarksville (September 28), at White Oak Creek (September 29), and at Clarksville (October 9).

Report of Maj. Thomas Derry, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., *October 14, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with Special Orders, No. 2, paragraphs II and IV, headquarters Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, I marched from Little Rock, September 25, with the following detachments under my command, to wit: Third Wisconsin Cavalry, 141 men, 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 1 surgeon, with ambulance and medical supplies; Third Arkansas Cavalry, 1 captain and 50 men; First Iowa Cavalry, 1 lieutenant and 63 men; Third Missouri Cavalry, 1 captain and 64 men; Third U. S. Cavalry, 1 lieutenant and 50 men, with 9 men from the Fourth Arkansas Cavalry; in all, 7 officers, 377 men, 1 surgeon, 2 ambulances, and 2 wagons, but no surgeon with supplies from Second Brigade, as ordered. Having crossed the Cadron with much difficulty, the ferry-boats being destroyed, the command obtained the first forage since starting, forty miles distant, at Colonel Howard's, on September 26. Proceeding thence through Lewisburg I ascertained that the various parties of the enemy, scattered along the route, had been informed of the numbers of the command and the object of the march. Encamped on Illinois Bayou, where we found plenty of wood and water but scarcely any forage. On the 27th we camped six miles this side of Piney, where I learned that the commands of Colonels Hill, Stirman, and Brooks were at various points along the route with headquarters at Clarksville, at which place they intended to oppose me. The next day, 28th, soon after crossing the river, which I was obliged to do by making a long circuit, the ferries being all destroyed, the advance, under Captain Herring, Third Arkansas Cavalry, began to fall in with parties of the enemy and pursued them with much spirit. Approaching Clarksville about 3 p. m., Captain H. fell upon their pickets, who, after some resistance, fell back upon the main force in the town. The advance followed on rapidly, deployed through town, the enemy taking refuge behind fences and houses, the main column closely supporting them. The enemy fled in every direction, leaving 7 dead. Independent companies and rebel conscripting officers are very numerous and active in this vicinity, having Clarksville for a rendezvous. So long had they been advised of our coming that the citizens had letters written for us to carry to Fort Smith and Little Rock. We were not expected so soon by a day; our rapid marching took them by surprise; so their resistance was not so vigorous as it might otherwise have been. Camped three miles beyond Clarksville. We had scarcely halted when we were bushwhacked on all sides. Skirmishers being sent out drove them off until dark. Attempts were being made all night, under cover of a severe storm, upon the pickets, but their alertness frustrated every attempt, though at daylight 1 man from the Third Wisconsin Cavalry was killed on his post. On the 29th skirmishing began with the march upon the front, both flanks, and rear. Having thrown out skirmishers on flanks these attacks were checked. Still firing was continuous without doing us much damage, the enemy suffering somewhat in wounded. Camped on White Oak Creek. While the sergeants were posting their

vedettes the enemy opposed them in a lively manner and during the whole night the command lay upon arms, being ignorant of how large a force surrounded them, for from every side was constant firing, during which 1 private of the Third Arkansas Cavalry was killed upon his post. During the past three days forage had been plentiful. On the evening of the 30th we reached Van Buren, finding no feed for horses, and with our ambulances and wagons loaded with sick. The next day I reported to General Thayer at Fort Smith and delivered him my dispatches. He was much pleased that the general commanding had sent a force sufficiently large to break through the enemy's lines, since he had not heard a word from department headquarters since the arrival of the last boat. He represented that the enemy were upon every side and were cutting off his forage and mail parties, and had either captured or driven back every party he had started for Little Rock.

We remained several days at Van Buren in order to receive dispatches, mails, and to shoe horses, it being necessary to shoe about 150 here, besides a number each night after reaching camp while on the march. We left on the 5th, acting as a portion of escort to forage train at the request of General Thayer, by which we were delayed two days. On the 8th we proceeded on our way toward Little Rock. Soon after separating from the train and passing through the Mulberry Mountains, the advance, under Captain Herring, began skirmishing. This night camped within ten miles of Clarksville. Just as we were halting for the night a rebel captain and squad were driven from a house. Next day the country people reported that the captain was wounded and died. We found on the 9th a small force at Clarksville, who fired a good many shots without inflicting damage, the advance pursuing them across the bridge. On the 10th we had continual skirmishing and a march of thirty-five miles to Illinois Bayou. Nothing occurred after this worthy of notice. It is reported that a command is at Dover numbering from 300 to 800 men. It is not likely that they are more than 300. We reached Little Rock on the 13th, having marched the distance, not calculating the circuits made at the fords, 180 miles, in six days, being nineteen days upon the round trip. From reports of the different detachment commanders I learn that we killed some 20 of the enemy and captured 4 prisoners, one an orderly sergeant in Stirman's battalion. I lost 2 killed, 2 missing, 1 died at Van Buren, and 31 left sick. I brought back sixty-three non-veterans of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

In conclusion I would respectfully represent that no detachment, except the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, was supplied with shoeing tools or shoes and nails. This neglect greatly impairs the efficiency of cavalry; besides this, men just from hospital and weak with recent sickness are not fit for such long, hard marches, neither is it proper to send men mounted upon poor and sore-backed horses, since men are thereby doubly endangered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS DERRY,
Major, Commanding Detachment.

Brig. Gen. J. R. WEST,
Comdg. Cav. Div., Seventh Army Corps, Little Rock, Ark.

SEPTEMBER 26–30, 1864.—Expedition from Napoleonville to Grand River and Bayou Pigeon, La.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. John H. Clybourn, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 2.—Maj. Jesse S. Miller, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.
No. 3.—Capt. Dudley C. Wyman, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. John H. Clybourn, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS ILLINOIS CAVALRY,
Napoleonville, September 30, 1864.

GENERAL: In pursuance to orders received from your headquarters, dated Thibodeaux, September 24, 1864, I have the honor to forward the official report of my expedition to Grand River and Bayou Pigeon:

Monday, 26th instant, my command, consisting of six companies Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, left this place at 6 a. m.; arrived at Donaldsonville, where two companies joined my command, and remained until 1 p. m., when the march for Bayou Goula was taken up, at which place the command halted and camped for the night. About 1 o'clock the pickets were fired into by a party of jayhawkers of Captain Williams' command, evidently not knowing of our presence in that vicinity. A few shots were exchanged, when the enemy turned and ran. The pickets were then strengthened in case of any further attack.

Tuesday, September 27, the command left Bayou Goula at 4 a. m. for Plaquemine, at which place the command arrived at 8 o'clock; then proceeded to Indian Village and arrived at 12 m. At 1.30 p. m. marched for Micheltre's Ferry. After leaving Indian Village three miles, a small boat was captured containing one sack of coffee, some men's and women's shoes, also one trunk containing dry goods, which were sent back to Indian Village, where one company were left to guard the ferry at that place. The command then resumed their march. About 3 p. m. the advanced guard was fired into by two men. They charged them, but they took to the high weeds which infest that region and made their escape. We captured their horses and arms. Companies A and K, under command of Lieutenant Fisher, made a forced march in order to form junction with gun-boat on Grand River and Bayou Pigeon, at which place he arrived at 4 p. m.; the rest of the command followed. The whole command encamped for the night at Micheltre's plantation. It was reported that the enemy were in small force on the other side of the bayou, consequently on Wednesday, September 28, one company was sent on that side of the bayou. The crossing being bad, the horses had to swim the bayou, causing some little delay. After the company under Lieutenant Pratt's command were ready, the balance of my command proceeded to Indian Village, Lieutenant Pratt meeting no enemy and not being able to proceed any farther on the other side of the bayou on account of the horrible condition of the roads—they being blocked up and impassable—recrossed and joined me before I arrived at Indian Village. Flat-boats, scows, small boats, &c., were plenty. I destroyed them, but it is evidently of no use; the last expedition did the same and I found them just as plenty as before. The country around Indian Village is well adapted to contraband and smug-

gling purposes. It is my opinion that one squadron of cavalry should be stationed at Plaquemine, where they could easily operate on the bayou in that vicinity, and thereby break up their nests, detect and arrest all persons aiding in that trade, and also detain and forever disband the parties operating on Bayou La Fourche. The command camped for the night at Indian Village.

Thursday, September 29, the command broke camp and proceeded to Plaquemine, where Captain Overrocker, with a party, had proceeded for forage and rations, and when the command arrived the men and horses were provided with provisions and forage and resumed their march for Bayou Goula. When we arrived there it was reported that Captain Williams had been at Bayou Goula on the 29th, and had gone to his camp at Myers' Mill, in the rear of Bayou Goula, where Captain Howk, with two companies, was sent. They proceeded about one mile outside of the town, halted, and camped. On the morning of Friday, September 30, left his camp at Bayou Goula at 3 a. m., with intention of capturing Williams' band of jayhawkers, said to be encamped at the mill. The captain proceeded to the mill, and found on his approach that the rebels had been camped there at a house about twenty minutes previous to his arrival, but no clue could be found as to where they had gone. Captain Howk, while marching through Bayou Goula with his command, did allow his command to break open houses and commit depredations, contrary to my orders, and the citizens of the place informed me that he allowed his men to take money and clothing from their persons. On his arrival at Donaldsonville I placed him in arrest, and will [have] charges preferred against him, that he may be brought before a court-martial for trial for disobedience of orders. This is the only instance, to my knowledge, where any depredations were committed. All the officers of my command were notified by me that they would be held strictly responsible for the conduct of their men and for any depredations that might be committed. The command left Bayou Goula on Friday morning, September 30, for Donaldsonville and Napoleonville, La. On arriving at the Cut-Off, on the Donaldsonville road, it was ascertained that fifteen miles could be saved; so four companies were dispatched on that road, the others taking the river road to Donaldsonville, where they arrived at 4 p. m. 30th. The command arrived at 7 p. m. at Napoleonville, La.

JOHN H. CLYBOURN,
Major, Commanding Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. R. A. CAMERON,
Commanding District of La Fourche.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Jesse S. Miller, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.

HDQRS. ELEVENTH WISCONSIN VET. VOL. INFANTRY,
Brashear City, September 30, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to transmit herewith a report of the expedition to Grand River Junction, of September 27, 28, 1864, and of which I was in command:

I embarked on the U. S. gun-boat Carrabasset with 125 men of Eleventh Infantry, Wisconsin Veteran Volunteers, at 5.30 p. m. Sep-

tember 26, when we dropped down to her moorings and made fast to her anchor. At precisely 12 o'clock midnight we left moorings; arrived off Pigeon Bayou at 5 a. m. 27th and anchored, it being so dark we were unable to cross the bar at the mouth of bayou. At daylight weighed anchor and crossed the bar into Bayou Pigeon ten minutes before 12 noon. The country between the mouth of Bayou Pigeon and the junction of Grand River is one continuous wilderness. Until within one mile of the junction there is not a house or sign of any habitation, although on either side of the bayou the land is dry and might be cultivated. It is covered with a heavy growth of live oak and thick clustering growth of underwood. There are numerous paths running through it in all directions, none of which show signs of recent travel. I landed parties of men under competent officers at several different points along the bayou and explored some distance back on either side, but could discover no trace of the enemy. Pigeon Bayou is very narrow and crooked, with large trees hanging over on either side, rendering it very difficult of navigation with as large craft as the gun-boat, although it has great depth, ranging from ten to twenty feet. Not finding the cavalry at the junction when I arrived, I sent two armed boats up Grand River about three-fourths of a mile, where I learned a large barge of cotton was hidden in a small cove, with instructions to run the barge down to the gun-boat if found. I then landed and went to the house of Mr. Micheltre, directly opposite the mouth of Grand River. Here I found two men who were in charge of the cotton and whom I arrested. I also found a large quantity of cotton stored in the sugar-house on Micheltre's plantation, which I seized. The party sent in boats up Grand River found the barge loaded with cotton hidden in a small cove about three-fourths of a mile from the mouth, the underwood and large trees nearly hiding it from view. No one being found at the barge they immediately took possession of it and brought it safely to the junction. I then sent a detachment under Captain Park down the south side of Grand River as far as the plantation of Charles Palfrey, occupied by one Mr. Brown, distant four miles. He had learned that a Confederate captain and four Confederate soldiers passed down in the direction of Lake Natchez on the morning of the 26th. In the meantime I had the gun-boat turned around, backed down opposite the sugar-house, and all the available men I had, after placing a picket on each side of the river, set to loading the cotton stored in the sugar-house onto the gun-boat. At 6 p. m. the advance guard of the cavalry arrived, the main body at 7.30. I had an interview with Major Clybourn, commanding the cavalry; remained at this place all night. Started the barge down Bayou Pigeon at daylight with one company of men under command of Captain Park. Cavalry started at 9 a. m. and at 10 a. m. I started down the bayou with the gun-boat, passed the barge and crossed the bar, came alongside at 4 o'clock, when we took her in tow and arrived at Brashear City at 11.30 p. m. September 28, with 3 prisoners, 220 bales of cotton, and 1 large barge. We destroyed two large flat-boats and several skiffs.

Very respectfully,

J. S. MILLER,
Major Eleventh Wisconsin Veteran Volunteers.

Capt. B. B. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. Dudley C. Wyman, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.

BRASHEAR CITY, *October 1, 1864.*

SIR: In pursuance of orders I went on board Gun-boat 43, with my command, at 4 o'clock on the evening of the 26th of September. My command consisted of a detachment of the left wing of the Eleventh Wisconsin, in all seventy-five men. We lay at anchor in the bay until 3 o'clock on the morning of the 27th, when we steamed up to Flat Lake. From Flat Lake we entered Bayou Long and proceeded without incident to its junction with Belle River. We found no difficulty in navigating Belle River, and reached Bayou Gotvellé in safety. Entering Bayou Gotvellé great difficulty was experienced from the short bends and narrowness of the bayou. I succeeded in penetrating to within three miles of Lake Natchez, where the bayou, becoming very narrow, I lay to and proceeded with eight men, in a small boat, to the lake. I found the bayou narrow, the bends short, and the bayou overhung with trees; so much so that navigation was impossible for a boat over 100 feet long. As it was past 12 o'clock, and knowing I could not form a junction, as ordered, I concluded to return. Returning several miles, we lay over all night and started for Brashear on the morning of the 28th, where we arrived at 8.30 a. m., when I dismissed my command. Bayou Long and Belle River are large, wide streams, navigable for gun-boats.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. C. WYMAN,
Captain Company G, Eleventh Wisconsin.

SEPTEMBER 29-NOVEMBER 30, 1864.—Operations against Indians in Nebraska and Colorado.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

Sept. 29, 1864.—Affair near Plum Creek, Nebr.
Oct. 7, 1864.—Skirmish on Elk Creek, Nebr.
12, 1864.—Attack on Overland Stage at Freeman's Ranch, near Plum Creek, Nebr.
13, 1864.—Skirmish near Mullahla's Station, Nebr.
20, 1864.—Attack on settlements in the Platte Valley, near Alkali Station, Nebr.
21, 1864.—Skirmish at Alkali Station, Nebr.
22, 1864.—Skirmish near Midway Station, Nebr.
28, 1864.—Skirmish near Midway Station, Nebr.
Nov. 6, 1864.—Skirmish at Sand Hills Stage Station, Nebr.
19, 1864.—Skirmish near Plum Creek Station, Nebr.
25, 1864.—Affair near Plum Creek Station, Nebr.
26, 1864.—Affair near Plum Creek Station, Nebr.
Skirmish at Spring Creek, Nebr.

REPORTS

No. 1.—Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska.
No. 2.—Capt. Thomas J. Majors, First Nebraska Cavalry.

No. 3.—Capt. William W. Ivory, First Nebraska Cavalry.
No. 4.—Capt. John R. Porter, First Nebraska Militia Infantry.
No. 5.—Capt. Thomas B. Stevenson, First Nebraska Militia Infantry.
No. 6.—Capt. Lee P. Gillette, First Nebraska Cavalry.
No. 7.—Lieut. Charles Thompson, First Nebraska Cavalry, Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

No. 1.

Reports of Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska.

HEADQUARTERS EASTERN SUB-DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA,
Fort Kearny, Nebr. Ter., November 1, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor respectfully to submit the following report of military operations in this sub-district since I assumed command on the 29th September last, in obedience to Special Field Orders, No. 2, dated at Fort Kearny, Nebr. Ter., September 29, 1864:

On the 26th day of September I arrived at this post with the command, which moved from here with me on the 28th August, 1864, under orders of Maj. Gen. S. R. Curtis, after marching 800 miles in search of hostile Indians along the waters of the Republican and Solomon Rivers. On the 29th September, 1864, I was ordered to assume command of the Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska, comprising a territory of 400 miles of country from the Missouri River to and including Julesburg, Colo. Ter., through which the several roads from Leavenworth, Atchison, Nebraska City, Plattsmouth, and Omaha, converging at and a little east of this post, continue west, forming the Great Overland Mail Route to Salt Lake, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, and California. The troops placed at my disposal consisted of one battalion Seventh Iowa Cavalry Volunteers, one battalion Nebraska Veteran Cavalry, the veteran portion of my own regiment, and four companies of Nebraska militia, together with thirteen pieces of artillery, giving an aggregate of 971 men and thirteen pieces of artillery. After consulting with Brig. Gen. R. B. Mitchell, commanding District of Nebraska, it was decided to station these troops as follows:

At Columbus, on Loup Fork of Platte River, distant eighty-seven miles west of Omaha City, Nebr. Ter., Company E, Seventh Iowa Cavalry Volunteers, Capt. J. B. David commanding, numbering eighty-nine men present.

At Junction City, on north side of Platte River and in the valley of the same, distant forty-two miles east of this post, Capt. Isaac Wiles' company, First Regiment Nebraska Militia (four-months' men), numbering forty-six men present.

At Little Blue Station, on Little Blue River and on the road from Atchison and Leavenworth, distant eighty miles southeast from this post, Capt. A. J. White's company, Nebraska militia, numbering fifty-nine men present.

At Pawnee Ranch, on same road and distant fifty-four miles southeast from this post, Capt. T. B. Stevenson's company, Nebraska militia, numbering fifty-five men present.

At Fort Kearny (headquarters Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska), distant 200 miles from Missouri River in due west course and on the south side of Platte River, Capt. Lee P. Gillette, Company A, First Nebraska Cavalry Veteran Volunteers, and four companies First Regiment Nebraska Cavalry Veteran Volunteers, numbering 112 men present and four pieces artillery.

At Plum Creek, Nebr. Ter., thirty-five miles west of this post, Capt. T. J. Majors, Company C, First Nebraska Cavalry Veteran Volunteers, and three companies First Regiment Nebraska Cavalry Veteran Volunteers, numbering 105 men present and one piece artillery.

At Mullahla's Station, distant fifteen miles west from Plum Creek, Capt. H. H. Ribble's company (I), First Regiment Cavalry, Nebraska Veteran Volunteers, numbering twenty-three men present.

At Midway Station, distant fifteen miles west from Mullahla's Station, Capt. John R. Porter's company, Nebraska militia, numbering forty-nine men present.

At Gillman's Station, distant fifteen miles west from Midway Station, Capt. Charles F. Porter's company (A), Battalion Nebraska Veteran Cavalry, numbering forty men present.

At Fort Cottonwood, Nebr. Ter., distant fifteen miles from Gillman's Station, Col. S. W. Summers, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, commanding, one company Seventh Iowa Cavalry Volunteers, one company Battalion Nebraska Veteran Cavalry, and six pieces artillery, numbering 100 men present.

At O'Fallon's Bluffs, Nebr. Ter., distant thirty-five miles west from Cottonwood, Capt. John Wilcox's company, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, numbering seventy-nine men present.

At Alkali Station, Nebr. Ter., distant thirty-five miles west from O'Fallon's Bluffs, Capt. E. B. Murphy's company, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, numbering seventy-three men present.

At Beauvais Station, distant twenty-five miles west from Alkali Station, Second Lieut. Merrill S. Tuttle, Company A, Battalion Nebraska Cavalry, numbering twenty-five men present.

At Julesburg, Colo. Ter., distant twenty-five miles west from Beauvais Station, Capt. N. J. O'Brien's company, Seventh Iowa Cavalry Volunteers, and two pieces artillery, numbering sixty-seven men present.

The posts of Fort Kearny and Fort Cottonwood being the only military posts heretofore existing on this long line of communication between the Missouri River and the States and Territories west of it previous to this time, the supplies at these posts having been to a great extent exhausted by the troops composing the expedition which started from here under command of Maj. Gen. S. R. Curtis on the 28th August, a large proportion of which were troops from Kansas, and the season of the year being far advanced at the time I assumed command, I found myself in a great measure thrown on my own resources in supplying these numerous posts with quarters, defenses, hay, and fuel. The public transportation being altogether inadequate to the wants of the command, fuel and logs for building purposes having to be hauled in some instances seventy-five miles, I instructed my post commandants to press the empty teams of freighters returning from the west to assist them in erecting defenses, hauling fuel, building logs, and hay, and also directed them to press mowing machines into public service, and without delay put up such amount of hay as would be required for winter consumption.

I would state for the information of the general commanding that the instructions authorizing the pressing of teams and mowing machines were such as would prevent any damage to citizen owners, having directed commandants to exercise sound discretion and prevent as much as possible any injury to citizens of the United States, and in every instance where owners of teams or mowing machines made it manifest that they would be sufferers by being detained on public work, their

teams and machines were promptly released. The necessity of adopting this course was urgent and imperative, and had it not been pursued the command and public animals would have suffered severely. Contracts to citizens would not be let on account of the imminent peril they had to risk of being murdered by hostile Indians unless guarded by our troops, who, having so much other duty to perform, could not be spared for such purpose. At the close of the last month, being thirty-three days since the organization of this line of posts was commenced, the work of erecting defenses, quarters for men and officers, stabling for public animals, and providing posts with hay and fuel, resulted as follows:

At Columbus there has been built a good stable, capacity 100 horses; quarters for men are nearly complete and will be commodious, capacity for 100 men; stockade work has been thrown up across the approaches and the post made defensible, though this work is not yet completed. Hay has been secured for winter supply, and fuel being close at hand no suffering can possibly arise from a deficient supply.

At Junction City stabling for sixty-four horses, and quarters for sixty-four men, has been erected: stockade work has been thrown around quarters, and stabling sufficient to render the post defensible against Indians. Hay for four months' supply for sixty-four horses has been secured, and fuel abundant close to the post on Grand Island in Platte River, insuring a full supply.

At Little Blue Station a deserted ranch has been occupied, additions made to it, and the troops at that post are comfortably quartered. Their horses are also sheltered, though the stable is not good. Abundance of fuel is close to station, and hay enough for the number of horses at the post.

At Pawnee Ranch a result similar to that at Little Blue Station has been obtained, with exception of hay, which is issued in half rations.

The troops of this station will have fulfilled their term of service on the 10th of December next, and at one time mutinied, forty of their number actually marching toward Arkansas City in defiance of the captain's authority. These men have by the influence of Col. O. P. Mason, commanding Second Brigade, Nebraska Militia, been induced to return to duty, but their absence caused serious delay in the progress of the works, essential to the safety and comfort of the men and animals at that post.

At Fort Kearny quarters and stabling for four companies already existed, and the men have been busily engaged in constructing a rectangular redoubt 262 feet by 221 feet, with one demi-lune at each salient flanking the ditches. This work, though not yet complete, is connected with rifle-pits, and covers the eastern and southern flanks of the post. Another redoubt will be erected at the northwest angle of the post covering the northern and western flanks, connected by rifle-pits with the interior works. This being a depot of supplies for posts east of it and west as far as Midway Station, and no citizens being hired by the quartermaster's department, the men have been actively engaged transporting supplies, cutting fuel fifteen miles distant and hauling the same; hay and fuel sufficient for wintering the command has been secured.

At Plum Creek quarters for the men have been erected capable of accommodating 160 men. A rectangular redoubt 332 feet square with bastions at the salients flanking the ditches has been commenced, and though not yet completed will be a perfect defense when it is. A deserted stable has been occupied for the use of the horses at this post.

Sufficient hay for wintering the public animals has not been secured, nor has a sufficiency of fuel for the winter been obtained, but both are in sufficient quantity within a short distance to prevent apprehensions of a deficiency before spring.

At Mullahla's Station a deserted ranch and stable have been occupied, affording ample quarters for men and stabling for horses. Hay and fuel are being put up at this station, and there will be no deficiency of supplies before spring. Nothing has been done here toward fortifying this post, the sod buildings and stables affording sufficient defense for the force occupying them.

At Midway Station a deserted ranch and stable have been occupied. Hay only in sufficient quantity for immediate consumption has been obtained at this post, and no supply of fuel is on hand. There is fuel sufficiently near, however, to prevent suffering, but hay will be short, if a mounted force is maintained here, as there is not enough put up within a reasonable distance to supply the post. No defenses have been erected here, the sod buildings being deemed sufficiently secure against any Indian attack.

At Gillman's Station a deserted ranch and stable have been occupied, affording ample accommodations for the garrison. There is an abundant supply of hay at this post belonging to the proprietor of the ranch, Mr. Gillman, which can be secured for public use. Fuel has not been put up for winter supply, though it can be obtained readily fifteen miles from the post. No defenses have been erected at this post, the sod buildings, stables and stockade corrals belonging to the ranch being considered sufficiently secure.

At Cottonwood commodious buildings are arranged in rectangular form about parade ground, giving accommodations for 200 men and stabling in rear of quarters for 178 horses, the whole inclosed by a stockade five feet high along eastern, western, and northern fronts, the southern face having a stockade nine feet high. Additional buildings are about completed for 100 more men. A good hospital, quartermaster, and commissary buildings have been erected at this post, of cedar logs—the principal ones of hewed logs—the company quarters of round logs.

At O'Fallon's Bluffs a deserted ranch has been occupied; another similar ranch has been purchased and transported to the post and erected adjoining to one occupied, affording limited accommodations to garrison. A good stable and stockade corral have also been occupied and the stockade extended so as to form together with the buildings and stables an efficient defense against Indian attacks. No hay has been put up here, but the post commander feels confident he can secure a sufficiency to supply him during the winter. Wood has to be hauled thirty-five miles and is now supplied only in quantities sufficient to supply the demand.

At Alkali a small sod house and stable were occupied and large additions built by the commanding officer. Quarters for 100 men and stabling for 110 horses have been erected of sod, the timber for roofing, &c., having been hauled seventy miles. An irregular line of parapets has been thrown up connecting and inclosing buildings and 300 tons hay cut and stacked. But little fuel has been obtained in excess of the daily consumption, owing to the great distance which it has to be hauled and the scarcity of transportation.

At Beauvais Station no buildings nor stables have been erected, the proprietor, Mr. Beauvais, an Indian trader, having permitted the occupation of a building and stable sufficient to accommodate the gar-

rison. Hay and fuel have been contracted for at this post and a full supply will be obtained. No defensive works were necessary here, the stockade around the stable and corrals, together with the sod and log buildings at the station, affording ample protection to the garrison.

At Julesburg, Colo. Ter., the stage station of Overland Mail Company was temporarily fortified with rifle-pits—no other quarters than holes dug in the earth, with shelter-tents for roofing; the gables, walled with sod, were erected. No stabling had been erected and the horses were allowed to stand tied in a corral surrounded by a common pole fence.

On the 26th October last this garrison was moved about one-quarter mile west of the stage station and a commodious ranch occupied giving ample accommodations. A large unfinished stable without roof has been finished for men's quarters, and a commodious stable is in process of construction. The sod inclosure around the ranch is an excellent defense, and when the stables are finished this post will be one of the best defensive stations on the line. An abundant supply of hay has been secured here, but the fuel is not supplied in sufficient quantity, the men having frequently to gather buffalo chips for cooking their meals. The nearest fuel to this post is seventy-five miles distant.

In addition to the work enumerated in the foregoing details of each post, guards have been furnished the Overland Mail Company stages daily each way from Little Blue Station, Nebr. Ter., to Julesburg, Colo. Ter., each guard being relieved at the next post. At one time last month so audacious had the Indians become in their raids that a mounted escort of one sergeant and ten men had to be furnished to the stage from Plum Creek to Cottonwood, each post relieving the escort. All the hay cut by the troops of this command was cut by them under arms, and the details ordered to procure wood were not unfrequently driven out of the cañons where alone it can be procured by superior forces of Indians, and no wagons used by the troops of this sub-district were permitted to go any distance from their posts without a strong guard to protect them. Add to this duty the daily and nightly patrols along the overland route and the constant reconnaissances made by detachments from each post, often extending their operations 60 to 100 miles on either side of the Platte Valley, and the amount of service performed, with a view of protecting the overland mail route, and the many thousands of wagons laden with supplies for the Territories west of the Missouri, which have lately passed over it in perfect security, and some idea of the activity of this command can be arrived at. The following is a résumé of operations against hostile Indians as far as reported to these headquarters: September 29, a train of emigrants returning from the West while camped two miles west of Plum Creek was attacked about 8 p. m.; 1 white man killed and 2 wounded. Capt. T. J. Weatherwax, Company G, First Regiment Cavalry Nebraska Veteran Volunteers, with forty men, immediately pursued the Indians; trail led across Platte River; Indians scattered, and trail was abandoned.

October 2, Capt. T. B. Stevenson, Nebraska militia, with thirty men of his company, started in pursuit of hostile Indians reported on the Blue, west of his post; traveled toward head of stream; found trail leading southwest; followed until satisfied Indians could not be overtaken, and returned. October 4, Capt. Thomas J. Majors, Company C, First Regiment Nebraska Cavalry Veteran Volunteers, with fifty men, scouted the country along Plum Creek, thence south to Turkey Creek

(called Mud Creek on map), and along it close to its outlet into Republican. On his return crossed Platte River and scouted the country adjacent to Buffalo Creek; saw numerous signs of Indians, but did not encounter any; whole distance traveled 145 miles. October 6, Capt. T. B. Stevenson, Nebraska militia, again moved in southerly direction up Elk Creek, with twenty-five men, expecting to join First Lieutenant Bremer, of his company, from Little Blue Station, with a similar number of men. First Lieutenant Bremer was ambushed by Indians, himself killed, and 1 of his men wounded. On the approach of Captain Stevenson's force the Indians fled, scattering in such a manner as to render pursuit impracticable. October 12, Overland Mail Company's westward-bound coach attacked by twenty-five Indians secreted in a deserted ranch eight miles west Plum Creek at 9 p. m.; one stage horse killed instantly by first volley; coach stopped; guard and passengers, using coach as protection, opened a rapid fire upon the Indians through the windows and doors of the ranch. After desperate fight, lasting two hours, 2 Indians killed; rest fled. One of the guard severely wounded in head, and 1 passenger slightly, flesh wound through leg. Commanding officer at Plum Creek immediately sent out a detachment of forty men under Capt. W. W. Ivory, Company H, First Regiment Cavalry Nebraska Veteran Volunteers; Capt. H. H. Ribble, commanding at Mullahla's, also sending out fifteen men to join Captain Ivory on Plum Creek. Captain Ribble's detachment met sixty Indian warriors; 2 of our men killed instantly; seven succeeded in reaching Plum Creek; the other six being cut off by forty warriors, dismounted and fought their way back to Mullahla's Station, sheltering themselves behind their horses. Indians lost 3 killed, 1 of them a chief who spoke broken English, and several others wounded; our loss, 2 killed, 2 wounded, 2 horses killed and 10 disabled by wounds.

October 18, Captain White, Nebraska militia, commanding Little Blue Station, reports scout to south and seeing Indians, who could not be approached near water shed between Little Blue and Republican Rivers. October 20, 200 Indians crossed Platte River, moving north, fifteen miles west of Alkali Station; killed 1 emigrant and ran off 50 head of oxen. Capt. E. B. Murphy pursued them to Ash Hollow. His horses being in poor condition and satisfied he could not overtake them he returned to Alkali 21st, at 9 a. m., and resumed work on his quarters and defenses.

October 20, Capt. N. J. O'Brien, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, commanding post Julesburg, Colo. Ter., reported pursuit of same band of Indians with forty men and one piece of artillery, with a similar result. October 21, same band of Indians having been re-enforced followed Capt. E. B. Murphy back to Alkali and attacked his post. They were repulsed but not pursued on account of exhausted condition of horses at the post. October 21, Captain Stevenson reports having gone out with twenty men and scouted the country south of Little Blue River. Saw many signs of Indians but could not overtake any. October 22, forty Indians attacked detachment of troops cutting wood near Midway Station. Detachment retreated toward station, were re-enforced and pursued Indians twenty miles, but could not overtake them. October 28, Capt. John R. Porter, Nebraska militia, commanding Midway Station, reported that a party of haymakers at work for Overland Mail Company near his post were attacked and driven in by a party of Indians. Mounted twenty-five men and started in pursuit, overtook them, killed 2 and captured 3, rest succeeded in escaping. The party proved to be Pawnees, who have heretofore been considered friendly toward the whites. On the 22d of October last, the wind being from the north and favorable,

I caused the prairie south of Platte River Valley to be simultaneously fired from a point twenty miles west of Julesburg continuously to a point ten miles east of this post, burning the grass in a continuous line of 200 miles as far south as the Republican River. In some places the fire went out owing to the grass being too thin to burn readily. But since then detachments have been sent out and the work has progressed favorably; every cañon and all the valleys of streams along this line have been thoroughly burned, thus depriving hostile Indians of forage for their animals in their hiding-places and driving all the game beyond the Republican River. From a point ten miles east of this post to Little Blue Station I have burned only the creek valleys and cañons, compelling the Indians to graze their stock on the high prairie if they remain in that part of the country, and leaving the game in that section undisturbed for the use of the Pawnees, who received twelve sacks of flour from this post on the 29th October last and started for the hunting grounds between Little Blue and Republican Rivers about 200 strong.

This hunting excursion of the Pawnees will prove of service to us, as it will scour that portion of the country left unburned, and where the hostile Cheyennes engaged our troops in July and October last. These Pawnees have promised to warn the posts of Little Blue and Pawnee Ranch in event of their finding hostile Indians. The firing of the prairie has been commenced on the north side of Platte Valley from Mullahla's Station to a point twenty-five miles west of Julesburg, Colo. Ter., extending north in some instances 150 miles. Universal consternation has spread among the Indians, to whom this mode of warfare is apparently new, and their presence along the road through this sub-district need not be apprehended during the winter. Officers from Fort Laramie tell me that already the effect of this grand burning of the prairie is manifest among the Indians, and that they are anxious to make peace, but whether their propositions are induced by fear of starvation, the game being driven off by fires, or only to check the process of burning until they can renew hostilities in the spring, I am not prepared to say, and would simply suggest a continuance of the work as a punishment for past misdeeds and a warning to them of what may occur in the future should they persist in their unfriendly conduct. One thing is certain, this burning of the prairie has produced a marked effect on the Indian tribes along the road, and they begin to dread the white man's power. It will be borne in mind that the Platte Valley proper—that is, the country lying each side of the river up to the bluffs on either side—has been protected from fire by express orders, and carefully preserved for the use of the immense amount of stock used in transporting merchandise over the road to the States and Territories west of Missouri River, and no suffering can possibly occur to the numberless teams traveling to and from the west.

I inclose diagrams* of the buildings and defenses of all the posts under my command—the black lines indicating the finished portions of the work, and the red lines the unfinished work in process of completion. I regret to say that the horses of this command are not in a fit condition for active field duty, arriving as nearly all of them did from a long and arduous expedition of 800 miles, during which they were on short rations most of the time, and being immediately ordered to occupy posts which required constant activity and watchfulness on the part of commanders to keep off hostile Indians by whom the country was to a great extent overrun. The horses have been compelled to do a vast amount of duty, and are thin and somewhat exhausted.

* Not found.

Stringent regulations are being enforced, however, by which the care of horses will be bettered, and I confidently expect them to recuperate sufficiently before long to fit them for active duty in hunting down the murderous Indians who committed so many acts of atrocity along this road in the summer. It affords me much gratification to state that although numerous attempts have been made by the Indians to interrupt communication between this post and the western Territories since I assumed command, all their assaults have been repulsed with loss to them. They have been steadily pursued whenever a trail could be found, and the country adjacent to the road for sixty miles made too hot for them. No interruption whatever, either of the U. S. mail or the immense amount of transportation passing over the road, has occurred thus far under my command.

Before closing this report I would respectfully call your attention to the patent truth, the hostility of the Indian tribes is general throughout the West. Those tribes who are on reservations, such as the Poncas, Omahas, Pawnees, and Otoes are restless, and already one band of the Pawnees has shown a spirit of resistance to our authority in the late affair near Midway Station on the 28th ultimo. From all the information that I can gather it appears to be the determination of the Indians generally to prevent the future encroachment of the whites upon their hunting grounds, and I confidently look for a renewal of hostilities on a much larger scale in the spring, for the reason that the war this past summer has been a success for the Indians, turning into their hands large amounts of valuable property captured from trains and many superior horses and arms taken from the murdered teamsters, while comparatively no punishment for these crimes has been administered to them by our forces. I firmly believe that unless a terrible example is made of them—for instance, the total annihilation of some of their winter encampments, by which they will be brought to feel the power of the Government and its ability to avenge the terrible butcheries committed by them during the past summer—they will from their past successes be encouraged to a more vigorous and audacious warfare as soon as the grass is green next spring. I discard the opinion which has been so freely advanced by many that this Indian war has been instigated and aided by whites. Its origin is in the natural antipathy between the Indian and Anglo-Saxon races. The rapid strides of civilization toward and over the Rocky Mountains foreshadow to the Indians a future so abhorrent to all his natural instincts that he cannot help turning upon the white man and attempt in his savage way to check this annually increasing current of white emigration toward his once quiet and bountifully supplied hunting grounds.

I cannot conclude without expressing my admiration of the soldierly behavior of the four companies of Nebraska militia under my command. They have endured privations and done duty without murmuring, only one company, Captain Stevenson's, having manifested any disorderly conduct and that was promptly remedied by Col. O. P. Mason, Nebraska militia. Their services entitle them to the thanks of their fellow-citizens, and the Territory may justly feel proud of such gallant men.

I am, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

R. R. LIVINGSTON,

Colonel First Regt. Nebraska Cav. Veteran Vols.,

Commanding Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,

Adjutant-General, War Department, Washington, D. C.

HDQRS. EASTERN SUB-DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA,
Fort Kearny, Nebr. Ter., December 1, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to respectfully submit the following report of military operations in this sub-district for the month of November last:

In my last report I exhibited the amount of labor performed by our troops at the various posts in this sub-district, and during the last month additions of various character have been made to buildings for the comfort of the men and officers, and the posts, with few exceptions, are now as comfortably provided for as the exigencies of the service will permit. For details of the progress made at the different posts I have the honor to invite your attention to the accompanying report of Lieut. Charles Thompson, acting assistant quartermaster, and acting commissary of subsistence of this sub-district.

The following is a résumé of scouts and skirmishes had in the last month:

November 7, 1864, Capt. E. B. Murphy, Company A, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, commanding post of Alkali Station, reported that Indians attacked Sand Hills Stage Station at 10 p. m. 6th instant. Their object seemed to be to run off stock. Were repulsed by six men of his company there as stage guard. No damage done.

November 11, 1864, Capt. A. G. White, Nebraska militia, commanding post Little Blue Station, reported scout southwest of his post, fifteen miles on Elk Creek. Found one Indian pony running loose. Saw no Indian signs.

November 16, 1864, Capt. William W. Ivory, Company H, First Nebraska Cavalry Veteran Volunteers, with forty men, moved from post Plum Creek southwest up Plum Creek, on south side, ten miles, thence north to Freeman's ranch, and camped. On 17th crossed to islands in Platte River, scoured them thoroughly, returned to bluffs south of Freeman's, and searched the cañons for three miles; about 11 a. m. struck fresh trail of about twelve Indian ponies going south. Being out of rations, and horses worn out, returned to post at Plum Creek.

November 19, 1864, Capt. Thomas J. Majors, commanding post Plum Creek, reported that 100 Indians attacked train three miles west of that post. With the mounted patrol of fifteen men immediately went to the rescue of train. Found Indians in line of battle, who immediately charged his force; were repulsed. Capt. Thomas J. Weatherwax, Company G, First Nebraska Cavalry, with re-enforcements, came in sight, when Captain Majors, with his force of fifteen men, charged the Indians, and drove them ten miles southwest, when darkness came on, and he was compelled to relinquish the pursuit. Our loss, none. Indians, killed, 5. Ox train lost; 20 head of oxen killed and wounded.

November 20, 1864, Capt. S. M. Curran, Company E, First Nebraska Cavalry Veteran Volunteers, with forty men, moved from post Plum Creek to scene of previous day's affair, thence southwest to bluffs, and struck trail of the retreating Indians, which he followed to Plum Creek, thence up on south side five miles. Here found many articles thrown away by the Indians; moved up the creek to the bend, twenty-five miles from post Plum Creek. Here Indian trail spread out on the prairie, and was lost. Turned course north to Platte River; scoured bluffs and cañons east to post of Mullahla's; remained there over night. On 21st was joined by Captain Ribble, Company I, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding post Mullahla, with eighteen men, and moved up

Platte River to old Indian haunts. Found no fresh indications of Indians having been there of late. Returned in afternoon to Plum Creek Station.

November 26, Capt. T. J. Majors, commanding post Plum Creek, reported that the westward-bound coach was attacked five miles east of that post, about 8 p. m. 25th, and 3 passengers, one woman and two men, wounded. On receiving this information immediately sent Capt. S. M. Curran, Company E, First Nebraska Cavalry, with his squadron to place of attack; found no Indians; found telegraph wire down and cut in three places, apparently cut by hatchets. By information gathered from passengers and driver the attack was made by a small force.

November 26, Indians attacked train five miles east of post Plum Creek at 4 p. m. Captain Majors, commanding post Plum Creek, with sixty men, immediately proceeded to the train. When within two miles of the train discovered Indians fleeing south. Followed at full speed and came up with them fifteen miles south, on head waters Spring Creek. Only half his horses were able to keep up, and when Indians made a stand in a deep cañon had only thirty-five men up—had been close to and firing into enemy's rear for the last mile. Indians from cañon opened up brisk fire at distance of 250 yards. Men dismounted and fought them. Ordered mount and attempted to gain position on flank or rear; from small numbers was unable to divide force, and every move to flank them was foiled by concentrating move of their whole force, numbering from 75 to 100. Darkness coming on, was compelled to retire. One man, Private McGinnis, Company E, First Nebraska Cavalry, slight wound. One horse killed and 2 wounded. Indians, 3 killed and a number wounded.

November 26, Lieut. J. P. Murphy, Company F, First Nebraska Cavalry, with eighteen men, marched to Sand Hills Stage Station, east of this post, at which place one man had been murdered the evening previous, and from there escorted overland stage coach to Elm Creek Stage Station. Coach proceeded from there on and he moved with his force on to Pawnee Ranch and Liberty farm. On the 28th returned to Muddy Stage Station. On 29th marched south and west, and came up Dry Creek, scouring the country and setting fire to the grass along all the streams. Returning to Fort Kearny saw no signs of Indians that were fresh.

November 26, Capt. Lee P. Gillette, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding post Fort Kearny, reported that in obedience to orders from headquarters Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska he moved with fifty men of his command from Fort Kearny at 11 p. m. 26th, in a westerly direction seventeen miles; thence south to bluffs seven miles; thence southwest over the prairie to head of cañons on Spring Creek; thence east from Spring Creek. On the 28th scouted in southwest direction nine miles back to Spring Creek, ten miles from its mouth. Near this creek found trails made by Indians and unshod ponies. Trail led both up and down the stream. Followed trail going south. At mouth found several old lodges. Crossed Spring Creek and moved up the Republican. On 29th moved west five miles and formed junction with Captain Majors from Plum Creek Station; marched down Republican to mouth of Spring Creek and followed up that stream to its source, scouring the cañons leading with it; thence northeast course to Platte River. On 1st December returned to Fort Kearny. Distance traveled 150 miles.

November 26, Col. S. W. Summers, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, commanding post Fort Cottonwood, reported that in obedience to instruc-

tions from headquarters sub-district, Captain Cremer with fifty men moved at 12 p. m. 26th for Dan Smith's Station. At daylight was joined by ten men from that station and forty men from Gilman's, and with that force moved south to the Republican River; crossed that stream and marched east to and up Beaver Creek. On the 30th turned direction of march north to Platte River, crossing the Republican River due south of post Plum Creek. From post Plum Creek returned to Fort Cottonwood. Reports no Indian signs on Beaver Creek. Thirty miles west of a line south of Plum Creek crossed a fresh trail going south of about forty Indians without lodge poles. On the Republican crossed another large trail of at least 150 with lodge poles. This party had camped there two days previous; had erected their lodges and evidently had been there some days. Reports no buffalo in country scouted over.

November 27, Capt. Thomas J. Majors, First Nebraska Cavalry Veteran Volunteers, commanding post Plum Creek, reported that in obedience to orders from headquarters sub-district he moved at daylight from post Plum Creek with fifty men and one 12-pounder howitzer south to scene of affair of the day before; thence southwest eighteen miles, where he struck the Curtis trail and camped. On the 28th continued march to the Republican River. On the 29th moved down the river, where he met Captain Gillette with force from Fort Kearny. Learning from him that fresh trails had been seen, leading north and none south, moved on down the river to Spring Creek, then up that stream twelve miles, where found seven Indian lodges recently occupied and capable of containing 150 Indians. On the morning of the 30th found that the Indians had separated or spread out so as to leave no trail that could be followed. From that point marched to head of Spring Creek, where the command separated, Captain Gillette moving toward Fort Kearny and his command back to post Plum Creek; distance traveled, 100 miles.

I beg particularly to call your attention to the gallantry of the troops at Plum Creek Station and the efficiency and promptness of the commanding officer, Capt. Thomas J. Majors. This officer, occupied as he has been to his utmost capacity in building fortifications, quarters, cutting hay and fuel, escorting stages, &c., has also been very active in hunting down the hostile Indians who have so frequently attempted raids on the road within his jurisdiction. His daring and self-possession in action are worthy of all praise, and by his promptness in flying to meet the enemy he has saved a number of trains and rescued a large number of travelers from being brutally murdered by the ruthless vagabonds of Indians who perpetrate their deviltries alike on women and children, as well as men.

I have the honor again to call your attention to the fact that the defensive character of this Indian war on our part is not calculated to terminate the atrocities so frequently committed by hostile Indians, scattered as the troops are along a line of 300 miles, with greater or less intervals between posts. These intervals, over which trains must necessarily pass, are subject to inroads by raiding parties of Indians, and it is on these that all the skirmishes of the last month have occurred. The number of troops at the posts not being large enough to permit any one of them to send out a sufficient force to penetrate into the Indian haunts south of the Republican River with safety, their scouting parties are necessarily confined in their operations to searching for and engaging small war parties of Indians, who always fall back on the approach of our troops and escape south. You will observe a reg-

ularity in the time of attacks adopted by the Indians. They invariably strike the overland road at a late hour of the day, by which means, when pursued by our forces, night interferes to stop the pursuit and the majority of them thus escape. I feel convinced that nothing short of an expedition against the encampments of the hostile Sioux and Cheyennes south of the Republican River, which will strike and destroy some large band, will terminate this barbarous warfare. Our position along the overland road and the vast amount of goods passing over it offers temptations to the young warriors of these hostile tribes which they will continue to embrace. In the past month they have not been successful, our troops promptly meeting and driving them, but such petty warfare is precisely of that character which stimulates the Indian brave, and unless a severe punishment is administered to them in their own encampment I look for continued raids of the character described in reports of scouts and engagements heretofore forwarded to your headquarters. The overland road is not safe for trains containing less than fifty or sixty well-armed men. On the 19th of November last you will see that the Indians did not hesitate to attack a train numbering over forty armed men, and had it not been for the timely arrival of Captain Majors that train would undoubtedly have perished. Thus far my efforts to keep open the great routes have proved successful; no interruption has taken place, although frequent raids have been made on it. To insure the safety of trains and the mail and passengers on the Overland Mail Company's stages, I issued instructions to post commanders directing them to hold small trains traveling over the road at their posts until a sufficient number of them were gathered to insure their safety on the road before permitting them to proceed on their way. The stage company was directed to time their departures east from Cottonwood and west from Fort Kearny so as to insure the passage of the coaches over the dangerous parts of the road in daylight. Mounted guards have been furnished the stage company between this point and Cottonwood, but this service is very injurious to our horses; 132 men are required for this duty every day. Dismounted guards continue to be furnished at the post west of Fort Cottonwood and east of Fort Kearny. The accompanying letters of instructions relating to this matter are forwarded for your information.

In my opinion all that is necessary to obtain peace with the Cheyennes and Sioux is to crush some of their large winter encampments out of existence, when feeling the power of our arms, they will submit; nothing short of this can accomplish lasting peace or give security to the great overland route. I would recommend that a temporary depot of subsistence stores and grain be established at a convenient camping-ground on the Republican in the month of April next, or earlier if deemed advisable, and that a body of mounted troops not less than 300 strong be used as scouting parties from that point until some large winter encampment of hostile Indians is found, when the whole force could be assembled and marched with all celerity consistent with safety to horses, to attack and destroy the encampment found. I do not consider it best to march a large body of troops over these desolate plains, encumbered with wagons, and trusting to chance to find the enemy. Such bodies of troops will always be seen first by the wily Indians, and timely preparation to move their encampment be made by them. It is utterly impossible to move a large body of men over the prairies without exposing them, and for this reason such bodies are nearly always unsuccessful in meeting the enemy unless our numbers induce him to

believe he can vanquish us, when he will offer battle, but this is so seldom the case that I deem the plan of making a depot and finding an encampment through reconnaissances infinitely more certain of success. The best season in which to attack Indians is in the early spring months; April and early part of May when the young grass purges and enfeebles their stock, disabling them from running any great distance and insuring their being easily run down by our grain fed stock.

I would also suggest the propriety of establishing a post on the Republican River, immediately south of Plum Creek, at some favorable point on the north side of that stream, connecting it by a telegraph line with Plum Creek Station early next spring. By this means raiding parties of Indians could be met by the troops of both garrisons and effectually checked. The timber on the Republican would enable the erection of log houses for quarters and stables and the erection of a substantial stockade around the garrison. Your attention is called to the fact that nearly all the depredations by Indians have been confined to the neighborhood of Plum Creek, and that the great Indian route between the Platte River and the country south is over the prairie lying between the Republican and the Platte Rivers, immediately south of Plum Creek.

The supplies for such a post could be hauled very readily, as the country between these points is excellent for road purposes. In addition to the advantages of such a post in deterring marauding expeditions of Indians, it would be found of great service to our posts along the overland road in furnishing a supply of fuel, which is abundant on the Republican and its tributaries, while it is exceedingly scarce on the road. The advantages of a post on the Republican River are so self-evident that I will not point them out further.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Col. 1st Regt. Nebr. Cav. Vet. Vols., Comdg. East. Sub-Dist. of Nebr.

Capt. JOHN PRATT,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Nebraska, Omaha, Nebr. Ter.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS EASTERN SUB-DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA,
Fort Kearny, Nebr. Ter., November 27, 1864.

WILLIAM REYNOLDS, Esq.,
General Supt. O. S. Line, Fort Kearny, Nebr. Ter.:

SIR: In view of the frequent ambuscades by hostile Indians between this post and Fort Cottonwood, and the fact that nearly all these hostile demonstrations occur after darkness, I deem it essential to the safety of the U. S. mails and the lives of the passengers in your coaches that you make it incumbent on your division agent to run the coaches between this post and Fort Cottonwood by daylight. I respectfully suggest the hour of 4 a. m. as a seasonable hour for the departure of the coach from this point for the west, and 3 a. m. for the departure of the coach going east from Cottonwood.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Col. First Nebr. Cav. Vet. Vols., Comdg. East. Sub-Dist. of Nebr.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS EASTERN SUB-DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA,
Fort Kearny, Nebr. Ter., November 28, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER POST,
Fort Kearny, Plum Creek, Mullahla's,
Dan Smith's Ranch, Gillman's, Fort Cottonwood:

SIR: The colonel commanding directs that you do not permit any small trains to pass your post unless there are enough men with it to defend it against Indian attacks. As soon as another train arrives and in your judgment the combined trains are strong enough to resist Indian attacks, permit them to proceed.

By command of Col. R. R. Livingston:

F. A. McDONALD,
First Lieut., First Nebr. Cav. Vet. Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

No. 2.

Reports of Capt. Thomas J. Majors, First Nebraska Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST,
Plum Creek, October 13, 1864—9 p. m.

LIEUTENANT: I am just in receipt of news from Captain Ribble—fifteen men sent by him, agreeable to my order (all he could mount), to make a junction with Captain Ivory on Plum Creek, south of Mullahla's Ranch. After having made a scout out as far as ordered and not meeting with Ivory, they started back and came up within sight of the ranch. On the bluffs opposite they were attacked by about sixty or more Indians, overpowered, and compelled to retreat. The Indians were between them and the ranch, consequently they had to fall back south. Two were killed (Jackson and Kelley) and 7 still missing, under Bangs. The only hope I have for their safety is that they may fall in with Captain Ivory, who is somewhere on Plum Creek, with about thirty men. I sent him out about 4 o'clock this morning. Two of his horses giving out ten or twelve miles up the creek, he sent them back, and they on their return came within sight of one Indian, who immediately fled southward. Their horses being in no condition to pursue, they came in and reported, whereupon I at once sent Captain Curran out to, if possible, find, attack, and kill all Indians found, supposing from this information that Captain Ivory had passed by them and they were lurking in his rear. I just hear that Captain Curran has arrived at Mullahla's Ranch without seeing anything of the enemy or Captain Ivory. I at once sent him orders to procure rations from Ribble and immediately follow; if possible make a junction with Captain Ivory. All the mounted force I have are now out under Captains Curran and Ivory. I hope for the best results, believing that if either Curran or Ivory sees them they will make sad havoc among them. I regret exceedingly that I am not personally in command, but have full confidence in those that are. I hope the necessity of the case will not demand my calling for more force, but if trouble still continues it will be impossible for me with my limited force to guard as much road as I am called upon to do, and beside this build quarters for my men, which

are very much needed, as winter is fast approaching. As soon as I am in possession of all the facts relative to the scouting parties I will at once communicate it to you.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, &c.,

THOMAS J. MAJORS,
Captain, Commanding Post.

Lieutenant MCDONALD,
A. A. A. G., East. Sub. Dist. of Nebr., Fort Kearny, Nebr.

You can telegraph this to Livingston if you think necessary.

MAJORS.

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HEADQUARTERS POST,
Plum Creek, Nebr. Ter., December 1, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In compliance with requirements of Circular No. 9, headquarters Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska, November 24, 1864, I have the honor to report as follows:

From the 1st to 16th of November the work of building quarters was vigorously continued. Seven rooms have been erected for officers' quarters, one for sutler and two for quartermaster's and commissary stores. But a few more days' work is required for their completion. About sixty feet of embankment has been constructed of sod-wall four and a half feet in height and three feet in thickness. The amount of fuel used up to the 20th of the month was cut on an island in the Platte and hauled a distance of from one to three miles. On the 16th Indians were reported to have been seen on the road between this post and Mullahla's Station. Captain Ivory was accordingly sent to scout the country with twenty-five men. Marched ten miles up Plum Creek, then across the bluffs to French's ranch. There being no shelter there, went on to Freeman's ranch and camped. Shortly after arriving at the ranch Private Rosecrans, Company D, First Nebraska Cavalry, was severely wounded by a shot from an enemy outside. The night was too dark to find any trace of the enemy.

On the following morning, November 17, the party crossed to an island in the Platte. Found no Indian trace, and then marched south into the bluffs, where the trail of a small party of Indians was found leading southward. The horses were too much exhausted, and supply of rations too limited, to profitably pursue, therefore the party returned to camp on the 17th, having marched about fifty miles. The land traveled over was very broken, except when in the Platte Valley. Timber in small bodies and plenty of excellent grass was found on Plum Creek. Nothing more was seen of the Indians until the 19th, when 100 of them attacked a train four miles west at about 5 p. m. I was soon apprised of the fact, and with twelve mounted patrol, accompanied by Captain Curran and Lieutenant Gillespie, galloped for the scene of attack. At sight of my approach the Indians desisted from their attack on the train and drew up in line of battle across the road and awaited my approach. When I had arrived within about 1,000 yards the Indians charged us with furious yells. I ordered my men to dismount, and by steady firing repulsed their attack, but not until they had extended their line so as nearly to surround us. Captain Weatherwax, whom I had ordered to follow as soon as he could mount, was by this time rapidly approaching with twenty-five men. When he was within supporting distance I ordered my men to mount and

charge, which was done with a will. The Indians retreated at full speed for seven miles into the bluffs, when it became so dark that it was inadvisable to pursue them farther. Five of the Indians were killed. Could not ascertain the number wounded, as they were in every instance assisted off the field by their comrades. Our loss 1 horse.

At daybreak next morning, November 20, I sent Captain Curran with forty mounted men to pursue the Indians. He moved to scene of action evening previous, and followed Indian trail up Plum Creek, finding many articles of value abandoned by the enemy, showing that their retreat had been precipitate. Twenty-five miles from Plum Creek Station found one of the enemy's horses with leg broken by musket-ball. Trail then became so much divided that it could not be followed. Captain Curran then marched northward to Mullahla's Station and camped.

On the following morning, November 21, he moved southward into the bluffs, searching carefully for indications of Indians. Failed to find any. Returned to camp evening of 21st. Weather was very cold and several of his men returned with feet and ears frozen. Captain Curran found timber in small quantities on Plum Creek for a distance of twenty miles from this post; after that there was neither timber nor water to be found on the creek. Grass was abundant, but dead. Land very broken between Plum Creek and Platte River.

On the 25th instant, at 9 p. m., the coach from Kearny was attacked four miles east of this post, wounding 3 passengers. Captain Curran was at once sent out with thirty mounted men. The night was intensely dark and no sign of the Indians could be found. A small train was met in a dangerous situation and escorted to the post.

On the 26th, at 4 p. m., a train of five wagons with twenty men was attacked five miles east of this post by about seventy-five Indians. The men being but poorly armed were soon overpowered and left their wagons, retreating toward this post. Two of them were killed and 6 wounded. I was soon notified of the attack by a patrol that had seen the occurrence from an island in the river, where wood-choppers were at work, and mounting thirty men as hastily as possible, I pursued the Indians sixteen miles to Spring Creek, where they were re-enforced, and sheltering themselves in the deep ravines or cañons could not be dislodged. A sharp fight here ensued, the Indians being dismounted as well as ourselves. Result not decisive. Enemy's loss, 3 killed; number wounded, unknown. Our loss, 1 private, McGinnis, Company E, First Nebraska Cavalry, slightly wounded, 1 horse killed, and 2 wounded. In their retreat the Indians were so closely pressed that they abandoned one horse, a number of spears, and the two scalps they had taken from the murdered men. The latter were brought to this post for burial. The wounded were skillfully cared for by Assistant Surgeon Larsh, and are now in a fair way for recovery.

At daylight on the following morning, November 27, I moved south with fifty mounted men and one 12-pounder mountain howitzer. Proceeded to the scene of the engagement the evening previous, hoping to find the Indians still in that vicinity. Failing to do so, I moved southwest about eighteen miles until I struck the Curtis trail, where I encamped for the night.

The next morning, 28th, I continued the march southward, crossing several small streams which were so much swollen that I was somewhat delayed in crossing my howitzer, so that it was night-fall before I reached the Republican, where I encamped.

On the following morning, November 29, moved down the river a short distance and met Captain Gillette's party from Fort Kearny. Learning from him that fresh trails had been seen leading northward and none to the south, I deemed it advisable to follow the trails spoken of, which I did, moving down the river to the mouth of Spring Creek, then up that stream about twelve miles, where I found seven Indian lodges recently occupied and capable of containing about 150 Indians. Camped at this point for the night.

Next morning, 30th, I found upon close examination that the Indians had separated or spread out so as to leave no trail that could be followed, and think they must have gone eastward, for had they gone west I should have been almost certain to have seen their trail as I moved south. From this point I marched to the head of Spring Creek, where Captain Gillette, with his command, moved in the direction of Fort Kearny, and I with mine to this post, arriving here about 6 p. m.; distance traveled, about 100 miles. The country passed over was very broken in the vicinity of Spring Creek, and in many places near the Republican. Timber was found in small quantities on both of the above-mentioned streams.

On the 27th I encamped on the open prairie, near a small lake, without any timber at all. Grass was plenty, but dead, and of but little value as forage. Dismounted guards were furnished the overland stage until the 26th, since when a mounted escort of ten men has been provided between this post and Mullahla's Station. The accompanying diagrams* indicate the routes pursued by scouting parties herein mentioned.

I remain, lieutenant, very respectfully, &c.,

THOS. J. MAJORS,
Captain, Commanding Post.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. William W. Ivory, First Nebraska Cavalry.

PLUM CREEK STATION, NEBR.,
October 17, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I respectfully report that in obedience to orders received from Capt. Thomas J. Majors, I left here on the morning of the 13th instant to scout the country on Plum Creek, and opposite to Freeman's ranch, the scene of the attack on the stage on the evening of the 12th. I scoured the country around and on Plum Creek some fifteen miles. I then struck across the hills and examined the cañons for a breadth of seven miles down to Freeman's and French's ranches, and to within two miles of Captain Ribble's station (Mullahla's). I then crossed to one of the islands opposite Freeman's ranch, made a thorough examination of the ground for three miles, found traces of the Indian moccasin tracks, &c. It being dark and my horses nearly given out, I camped. In the morning, 14th, I sent a squad of nine men and corporal across the Platte to scout the country on the north side and join me in the evening at this place. I then started for camp, the twenty-four hours' rations ordered out with [me] being exhausted. At the road near Freeman's I got information that a party of Captain Ribble's men, who were out looking for the same Indians I was after, had been attacked

* Omitted as unimportant.

by a band of Cheyennes, supposed to be forty warriors, under the command of one of their big chiefs, White Antelope. They killed and scalped 2 of Ribble's men, wounded 2, and captured and killed 7 or 8 of his horses. After some fight the small party, only eight men, had to retreat to their station at Mullahla's, six miles from where the men were killed. This occurred the same day I went out, the 13th, but late in the evening and nearly on the same ground my men had gone over.

On hearing this report I started for Captain Ribble's station, and sent word to my men to all join me there. After being joined by Captain Curran's command, some fifteen men, by order received from Captain Majors, we marched for the scene of the attack the day previous. Found the dead bodies of Ribble's company some six miles south of his station. We scouted the country for two to three miles, it being nearly dark when we got out. We returned to Mullahla's ranch and camped. Captain Majors joined the command before we had got out that evening. The next morning, the 15th, we started in the direction of Plum Creek over the ground partly scouted the day before, traveled some fifteen miles south, then ten miles southeast to a lake, finding no trace of the Indians. We then marched for camp at this post, where we arrived about 9 o'clock at night. I would respectfully give it as my opinion, which I hope the captain commanding will forward to district headquarters, that if I had [had] reasonably good horses on this scout, I would more than likely have come on the Indians in their rear about the time of their attack on Sergeant Bangs' party, as I would, if the horses had been able to stand it, have marched some miles farther out. As it was I was under the necessity of marching most of the time at a walk, to enable me to scout the country between this and the point opposite Freeman's ranch, on Plum Creek, and from there to the Platte, as I understand from verbal instructions by the captain commanding. I started out with twenty-seven horses, every one that was fit to travel, out of forty-five horses. Two of them gave out the first five miles and four were unfit to travel out of a walk, that I sent back; and out of the whole number of horses that I had the first evening, when I got to the Platte not five of them could have galloped five miles. I am almost certain with the men I had out if they were properly mounted I could have found the Indians and whipped them, as I would have crossed the Platte with my men the first evening out, and as it proved after, we would more than likely have come up to them on the north side, for the Indians crossed the road and river that night some five miles below this post.

Very respectfully,

WM. W. IVORY,
Captain Squadron H, First Nebr. Cav. Vet. Vols.

Lieut. LOUIS J. BOYER,
Acting Post Adjutant.

No. 4.

Report of Capt. John R. Porter, First Nebraska Militia Infantry.

MIDWAY, *October 28, 1864.*

DEAR SIR: We had a fight to-day with the Indians; killed 2 and took 3 prisoners. About noon there were twenty-five or thirty Indians came down on the opposite side of the river and run our hay-makers over. I ordered my men to saddle, and we crossed the river. We run them fifteen miles; when we got within shooting distance shot 1 there

and got him. Ran about two miles, when 2 more gave up and we took them prisoners; then kept up a running fire to the bluffs on the other side of Buffalo Creek. When near the bluffs we killed another and took 1 more prisoner. We lost 1 good horse, saddle, bridle, and equipments. The boys behaved nobly. I think several carried lead off with them, as there were a good many shots fired at them. All my men arrived in camp 10 p. m.; none killed or wounded. All of them have some Indian trophy, and feel as though they had not served their sixty days for nothing.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN R. PORTER,
Captain, Commanding Post, Midway, Nebr. Ter.

Col. R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Commanding Eastern Sub-District, Nebraska Territory.

No. 5.

Report of Capt. Thomas B. Stevenson, First Nebraska Militia Infantry.

PAWNEE RANCH, *October 7, 1864—10 p. m.*

COLONEL: Just returned from a disastrous scout to find your General Order, No. 4, awaiting me. Yesterday late in the evening I discovered Indians on the prairie to the number of about fifty, between the headwaters of Liberty and Elk Creeks. I had but four men with me. They scattered in a twinkle on seeing us toward Elk Creek. The darkness favored them. I sent immediately to my first lieutenant, F. J. Bremer, commanding Little Blue Station, to spare me all the men possible, I to meet them midway between this post and his. We met at daylight this morning and moved up the east side of Liberty Creek; thence to the head of Elk Creek and down some distance without success. I was prepared to stop out all night, the lieutenant was not. He had gone about a mile and then stopped to graze, believing there was not an Indian on Elk Creek, for he had been on the lower part the day before. As I am informed, he crossed the creek with three men to what seemed a trail; was shot dead by Indians in ambush; one of the men is wounded (I think not serious) with an arrow. The wounded man fired on the Indians several times and felled one. The men fell back out of the thicket, Indians being concealed and believed to be numerous, though no one saw more than five at one time. A messenger of those on the other side of the creek came to me. I advanced in haste, but all was over. My lieutenant, a good soldier and worthy man, dead by a gunshot; the ground strewn with arrows; a miserable redskin carried off dead or wounded. I explored the thicket; got some moccasins, Indian purses, lariats, and a gun cover in dens they had in the thicket, but the Indians evaded and escaped me. I have not men enough to hold two stations, guard the stage line, and go thirty or forty miles to seek a fight. I now propose to have fifteen mounted men move down each side of this creek of Indian murderers, and twenty or thirty infantry scour the bed of the creek at the same time, and where necessary burn out the thicket. Will be up to the fort soon.

Your obedient servant,

THOS. B. STEVENSON,
Captain Company A, First Regiment Nebraska Militia.

Col. R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Commanding Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska.

No. 6.

Report of Capt. Lee P. Gillette, First Nebraska Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST,
Fort Kearny, Nebr. Ter., December 16, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report, in obedience to Circular No. 9, headquarters Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska, the following military [operations] at this post:

On November 26, 1864, Lieut. John P. Murphy, with eighteen enlisted men of Company F, First Nebraska Cavalry Veteran Volunteers, marched to Pawnee Ranch, on the Little Blue River. On morning of the 28th of November he marched from that post in a westerly direction, scouting the country adjacent to the headwaters of the Little Blue, and returned to this post on the 30th of November. Reports that he saw no Indians nor any signs indicating that they had been on that stream recently. The country passed over from Pawnee Ranch to Fort Kearny is considerably broken, and is interspersed with numerous small streams. Grass and timber (along the streams) is in sufficient quantities to supply troops marching through the country. On the same date, November 26, one commissioned officer and forty-five enlisted men of the garrison left post, under command of Capt. L. P. Gillette, on scout to Republican River, with six days' rations for men and six days' rations for animals. Marched 11.30 p. m. of that day. Moved up Platte River to Seventeen-Mile Point and went into camp. Marched at daylight the following morning in a southerly direction across Platte River Bottom and over the Sand Hills; thence southwest twenty-five miles to the cañons on the head of the creek next east of Spring Creek, and went into camp. The country traveled over after leaving the Sand Hills that skirt the Platte River Bottom is high rolling prairie, and produces no timber and but very little grass.

Next morning, November 28, marched west nine miles and struck Spring Creek ten miles from its mouth; thence down that stream to Republican River and up the Republican River seven miles and camped for the night.

Next morning, 29th, marched five miles west, forming junction with troops under command of Captain Majors. Returned direct to the mouth of Spring Creek; marched up that stream eleven miles, and camped. Country passed over on last two days' march very much broken. Streams difficult to cross on account of steep banks and muddy bottom. Grass plentiful and on the streams wood in sufficient quantity to supply troops marching through the country.

On the morning of 30th marched north ten miles to the source of Spring Creek; thence northeast twenty miles to Seventeen-Mile Point, on Platte River.

The troops at post during the month of November have been doing ordinary patrol, escort, fatigue, and guard duty. A part of the command have been building fortifications, and during the month have put up 800 square yards of sod and earth embankment. The extreme cold weather and the number of men required for wood-cutting has interfered with the work on the fort. I most respectfully request that work on the fort be suspended until spring, and that the engineer in charge be discharged. The wood detail (consisting of one commissioned officer and twenty-five enlisted men) are cutting wood on Grand Island, eighteen miles east of Fort Kearny, and have put up 200 cords of wood, of which seventy-five cords have been delivered at post. The Platte River is at this season of the year difficult to cross. Wagon-

masters have found it impossible to take more than half loads over. Mr. Wheatley, wood contractor, has delivered from fifty to seventy-five cords of wood only on his contract to supply the post with 200 cords. I respectfully ask that he be proceeded against for non-fulfillment of contract.

I have the honor to be, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEE P. GILLETTE,
Captain, First Cav., Nebr. Vet. Vols., Commanding Post.

Lieut. F. A. McDONALD,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska.

No. 7.

Report of Lieut. Charles Thompson, First Nebraska Cavalry, Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

EASTERN SUB-DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA TERRITORY,
Fort Kearny, December 2, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to Special Orders, No. 22, dated headquarters Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska, November 13, 1864, I have the honor to submit the following report:

On receiving the order I proceeded immediately to the post at Plum Creek and examined at that place the quartermaster and commissary departments. Supplies for this post are forwarded from Fort Kearny, estimates for six months' supplies having been made and forwarded. The quarters for the troops are completed, but are not occupied on account of not being able to procure any stoves for heating and cooking purposes. The quarters are built without fireplaces. Requisitions have been made on Capt. S. H. Moer, district quartermaster, and on my arrival at Plum Creek I wrote him, urging him to procure them at once, as the troops were in a suffering condition for want of them.

This post has a sufficient supply of hay secured for winter use. Fuel for the wants of this post can be procured five miles from the post, and is cut by the troops detailed for that purpose. There are three six-mule teams at this post, which are used for hauling wood, stores, and for post duty. Fresh beef is supplied by contractors, and is of fair quality.

Post of Mullahla's I found in a destitute condition in regard to supplies of fuel and hay. Fuel can be procured twelve miles from the post on Plum Creek, no stream to cross. Lieut. M. A. Hance, First Nebraska Cavalry, and acting assistant quartermaster, informed me that if he could get a supply of axes he could get a detail of men to cut the wood, and as there is no team at this post, proposed to press a train to haul it in when he should have a sufficient amount put up. The axes have been forwarded to him. There is on hand at this post about twenty-two tons of hay, but will require seventy-five tons more. I hired a Mr. Smith with his mowing machine to put up the amount required, but after having been at work a short time, the ground being frozen so hard, the machine broke and rendered it almost useless, and Mr. Smith was compelled to abandon the idea of cutting any more hay this season. There is no hay near this post that can be purchased. I would respectfully call the attention of the commanding officer to this fact for his guidance in stationing mounted troops at this post. Supplies for this post are procured from Fort Kearny, and estimates of stores have been made.

Post at Dan Smith's Station: The quarters for the troops at this post are completed and are in a comfortable condition. Stores are procured from Fort Cottonwood; estimates for six months' supplies have been made and forwarded. There are twenty-eight tons of hay put up at this post, and it will be sufficient for the command now stationed there, provided it is issued in accordance with orders from sub-district headquarters. A sufficient amount of fuel is secured at this post for winter's use, and more can be procured six miles from the station. No team at this post. Hauling has been done by teams pressed for the purpose.

Post at Gillman's Station: Stores are procured from Fort Cottonwood; estimates have been made for six months' supplies and forwarded. Quarters for the troops have been erected and are completed and in comfortable condition. Stabling for the horses are receiving repairs and will soon be completed. A full supply of hay is secured for this post for the present command during the winter. Fuel can be procured by the troops for the use of this post, having two six-mule teams for hauling purposes and can be obtained seven miles from the station. Fresh beef is supplied by contract under the direction of the commissary of subsistence at Fort Cottonwood, and is of good quality.

Fort Cottonwood: This post is the depot of supplies for the following-named posts: Dan Smith's Station, Gillman's Station, Fort Morrow, O'Fallon's Bluffs, Alkali Station, Beauvais Station, and Julesburg, and has ample store room for supplies for twelve months. The quartermaster buildings are excellent and in good condition. At present they are greatly in need of quartermaster stores and clothing. Captain King, commissary of subsistence and acting assistant quartermaster, having made his estimates and forwarded them some time ago, has been informed that they are being filled and stores are now on the way. The supply of grain at this post is sufficient for this and the posts mentioned for two months and contract made for a further supply, not completed. The supply of hay already secured is sufficient for winter's use and is of good quality, Captain King having complied with instruction from district quartermaster's office instructing him to purchase all the hay in the vicinity of Fort Cottonwood. Arrangements are made to keep up the supply of fuel for the winter, having it cut by the troops and hauled by public and private transportation (of the latter four teams are hired). Sufficient fuel can be collected from three to seven miles from this post. There are five Government teams at this post for hauling wood and other post purposes. The stabling is only sufficient for the cavalry horses now stationed here, leaving the quartermaster's animals exposed to the weather. A sufficient number of logs, however, have been purchased to build a quartermaster stable—is in course of erection and will soon be completed. Fresh beef is furnished this post by contract, is supplied when required, and is of good quality. Twenty-six wagon loads of subsistence stores are on the way from and left Omaha on the 15th ultimo. Fort Cottonwood is destitute of blacksmith's, wagon-maker's, and saddler's shops, not having been furnished with the necessary tools. Estimates have been made for them and as soon as received shops will be commenced, which are indispensable to this and dependent posts.

Fort Morrow: Troops at this station receive their supplies from Fort Cottonwood, the same as troops stationed at that place. Fuel can be procured at a short distance.

Fort O'Fallon's Bluffs is supplied from Fort Cottonwood. Quarters for troops and stabling are well arranged and in good condition. Full supply of hay secured; 300 tons put up by contract awarded by dis-

trict quartermaster. Supply of fuel arranged is cut by troops detailed and hauled by transportation hired; distance, thirty miles. One six-mule team for post service, &c., at this post. Tools for blacksmith and saddler shop complete and in good working order. Fresh beef supplied by contractor, Mr. John Morrow.

Post at Alkali receives supplies from Fort Cottonwood. Quarters for troops completed and in comfortable condition. Officers' quarters and quartermaster building will soon be completed. One thousand feet of lumber are required at this post to complete stables, quarters, &c., none being on hand at Fort Kearny. I gave the necessary order for it to be purchased and forwarded. Supply of hay for winter's use secured, having been purchased by contract. This post is destitute of fuel, having to haul it sixty miles. The commanding officer informed me that fuel could not be procured at present less than $47 a cord. I directed his quartermaster to procure a quantity at as low figures as possible and to watch for trains returning from the west empty, and by that means procure a supply for winter at reasonable rates. Four Government teams on hand for hauling supplies, &c.; fresh beef supplied by Mr. Fales during the month of November. William Morrow having been awarded the contract to furnish all posts west of Fort Cottonwood, he will in future furnish fresh beef to this post.

Beauvais Station supplied from Fort Cottonwood. Sufficient supply of hay put up by Mr. Beauvais and gave necessary instructions for its purchase at $45 per ton. Fuel cannot be procured nearer than sixty miles. Mr. Beauvais having some five cords on hand, I gave instructions for it to be purchased at $45 per cord. Troops are stationed at the ranch of Mr. Beauvais and no Government buildings have been put up.

Julesburg: This post receives supplies from Fort Cottonwood, but an estimate was made direct on department quartermaster, which is now being filled and stores are on the way. The men's quarters at this post are not completed, one of the buildings not being covered; the poles have to be hauled a distance of seventy-five and eighty miles. Captain O'Brien, Seventh Iowa Cavalry, is using every exertion to complete his quarters and stables and make them comfortable as soon as possible. Corn is supplied by contract and is promptly forwarded. A sufficient supply of hay is secured. Fuel cut by enlisted men and hauled by hired teams. Commanding officer can keep up a supply in this way. One post team on hand at the post. Fresh beef supplied by contractor, Mr. Morrow.

Post at Pawnee Ranch is supplied from Fort Kearny; quarters and stables are comfortable and in good condition. Supply of hay secured. A sufficient supply of fuel is secured for this post, the commanding officer having promised the men that they should be paid for cutting the wood. They are anxious to know the price they will be allowed per cord, as their time of service expires on the 13th instant. Fuel is procured three miles from the station. No Government transportation at this post. Three private teams hired and paid by Capt. S. H. Moer, assistant quartermaster, Omaha, Nebr. Ter. Fresh beef furnished by Contractor Beckwith and is of fair quality.

Little Blue Station receives supplies from Fort Kearny. Twenty-five tons of hay at this station and fifty-eight horses to be supplied. The amount is not sufficient to feed through the winter and I would suggest that when the troops at Pawnee Ranch leave, a portion of the troops at Little Blue Station be ordered to that station. Supply of fuel can be procured within one mile of the post. Two private teams hired for post purposes. Quarters and stables completed and in good condition.

Junction Station receives supplies from Fort Kearny. Quarters and stables in good condition. Present supply of hay secured and should any more be required, can be purchased in the vicinity. No Government teams at the post; private transportation hired.

Post at Columbus receives supplies direct from Omaha; has a full supply of quartermaster and commissary stores. Hay and fuel secured. Quarters and stables erected and almost completed. Two government teams at the station.

Fort Kearny is the depot of supplies of the following posts: Mullahla's Station, Plum Creek, Pawnee Ranch, Little Blue Station, and Junction Station. The supply of stores at Fort Kearny is small, being entirely out of articles most needed. Estimates for stores have been made and forwarded for six months' supplies, but stores not yet received. A supply of hay has been obtained to last through the winter, and will allow of an issue of ten pounds to the ration. The contractors failed to fill the contract for the regular winter supply, and the above was procured by impressment and private purchase. A supply of fuel for two months for this post secured and arranged, but requires hauling. Private transportation will have to be hired for the purpose. A wood party of enlisted men are at present out cutting wood, distance from the fort sixteen miles. The post quartermaster has instructions to purchase wood, but as yet has not been able to obtain any. Laborers are scarce, and it is a difficult matter to get responsible persons to take contracts at this season unless at exorbitant rates. There are four six-mule teams at this post, used for hauling wood and other post purposes. Any transportation required outside the garrison, forwarding stores, &c., has to be hired from private sources. There is quite a number of old wagons at this post that can be repaired. The post quartermaster has been directed to procure material, &c., and make the necessary repairs as soon as possible. Hay and fuel for the supply of Fort Kearny is contracted for by Capt. S. H. Moer, assistant quartermaster, District of Nebraska, at Omaha, Nebr. Ter. Contract for 250 tons of hay (and afterward increased 250 tons) was made with James S. Wheatley. Only 200 tons on this contract was delivered, and that was consumed as fast as received, leaving the post at Fort Kearny in the month of October without a ration of hay on hand. The consequence is that hay has to be taken from people who have put it up for the purpose of furnishing freighters during the winter and spring, and more than double the amount paid per ton for the hay that it could have been procured for in the summer, besides being of great inconvenience to the parties who are compelled to furnish it. Contracts for 200 cords of wood, and afterward increased 500 cords, made with James S. Wheatley by Capt. S. H. Moer, assistant quartermaster. Only fifty cords on this contract have been delivered, leaving the garrison destitute of fuel, consequently it has to be procured at high rates, besides keeping a permanent party of enlisted men cutting wood. In regard to the non-fulfillment of contracts, I would respectfully call attention to the opinion given by the Solicitor of the War Department, and promulgated in General Orders, No. 20, Quartermaster-General's Office, May 12, 1864. Non-performance of contracts has left this post in a most critical condition.

On examining the unserviceable and condemned animals at this post I found that eighty cavalry horses and seven mules had been submitted to the district inspector as unserviceable, and by him condemned and recommended to be sold; report forwarded to department commander for approval but not yet returned. The above horses, eighty in number, with the exception of some four or five, have all been recently re-

ceived from the district quartermaster at Omaha, Nebr. Ter., and sent from that place as serviceable cavalry horses, being recently purchased and never used in the service. On the arrival of a large lot of the above, company commanders having been notified that the animals were ready for issue as per their requisitions, refused to take them on the ground that they were not fit for cavalry horses and were unserviceable. A board of survey was immediately convened and the above number thrown out and pronounced as unserviceable. These horses have never seen any service, only traveling from Omaha to Fort Kearny, a distance of 215 miles, making slow marches. The animals were so poor that a number actually died on the road. Animals of such a class should not be purchased, as it is a great detriment to the interests of the Government and the public service in consuming forage, which is scarce and costly, and when wanted for the purpose they were purchased for are found totally unfit for use. Commanding officers at Fort Kearny and other posts in this sub-district are continually complaining of not receiving promptly quartermaster and commissary stores on estimates that have been forwarded in due season.

The posts at Forts Kearny and Cottonwood during the past three months have been very badly supplied, causing the troops to suffer more or less for the want of necessary clothing. In some cases for the want of boots men have been compelled to purchase moccasins, and other articles of clothing that have been worn out (on account of the large portion of fatigue duty to be performed in erecting and establishing new stations on the route) cannot be replaced for want of stores. The supply of commissary stores could not be kept up, and the troops in some instances could not procure the full rations, and this, when some of the men were working hard building quarters, procuring fuel, &c., and exposed to severe weather. On account of stores not having been forwarded promptly on estimates, and the store-houses being empty, quartermasters have been compelled to take stores from trains destined to posts west of here.

At Forts Kearny and Cottonwood, the store-rooms are good and sufficient for at least nine months' supplies for the respective and dependent posts, and I would respectfully ask, why stores estimated for have not been forwarded. Fresh beef is furnished Fort Kearny by Mr. Boyd, contractor; is of good quality and delivered when required. Estimate of commissary and quartermaster stores, and of clothing, camp and garrison equipage for six months please find inclosed,* which please approve and forward to the proper officers. Estimates for six months' supplies have been made out and transmitted previously, and the amount forwarded on the estimate should be deducted from the accompanying. In my estimate of the 9th of October I asked for thirty-six mule teams. I would again respectfully urge that they be forwarded as soon as practicable, as they would be of vital importance and the greatest relief to the various posts of this sub-district in forwarding supplies, procuring fuel, &c.

Trusting that the stores asked for on the accompanying estimates will be forwarded promptly,

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES THOMPSON,

Lieut., First Nebr. Cav. Vet. Vols., and A. A. Q. M., A. C. S.

Lieut. F. A. McDONALD,

First Nebr. Cav. Vet. Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.,

Eastern Sub-Dist. of Nebr. Ter., Fort Kearny.

* Omitted as unimportant.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1864.—Skirmish at Waynesville, Mo.

Reports of Lieut. Thomas B. Wright, Company B, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

WAYNESVILLE, *September 30, 1864.*

SIR: I attacked twenty guerrillas to-day in Waynesville; killed 1, said by citizens to be Bill Anderson, and wounded 2 others, who made their escape; killed 2 horses and captured a third. Also captured a revolver and some clothing dropped by the rebels in their flight. Our loss, 2 horses wounded. They burned stabling of one company and set fire to the magazine in the fort, but it did not burn. No other damage done to property. They robbed the county clerk of $100 and secured a small amount of clothing from the citizens.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. B. WRIGHT,
First Lieut. Co. B, Fifth Regt. Cav., Missouri State Militia.

Lieutenant-Colonel EPPSTEIN,
Rolla, Mo.

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OCTOBER 1, 1864.

SIR: Since writing I have learned that this band were under command of a man named Burkhart, formerly of Texas County, Mo., who represented that he belonged to Shelby's command, but several of his men were recognized here and are known to be bushwhackers. I do not think they have any connection with the army invading the State. I learned to-day that they had collected and gone in southern direction.

T. B. WRIGHT.

Lieutenant-Colonel EPPSTEIN,
Rolla, Mo.

SEPTEMBER —, 1864.—Capture of the Steamer Ike Davis.

Report of Maj. Gen. John G. Walker, C. S. Army.

HDQRS. DIST. OF TEXAS, NEW MEXICO, AND ARIZONA,
Anderson, October 1, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that Capt. W. F. Brown, of the Marine Department, and Lieut. Marcus J. Beebee, of the C. S. Navy, and eight others (volunteers for the enterprise), a few days ago captured the U. S. steamer Ike Davis, a packet between mouth of Rio Grande and New Orleans, and ran her into Matagorda Bay, where she now lies. These gentlemen entered themselves as passengers for New Orleans, and when twelve miles from Brazos rose upon the crew, drove them below, and took possession of the vessel—a steamer of 400 tons and said to be very fast.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. WALKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff.

OCTOBER 1–4, 1864.—Scout from Helena to Alligator Bayou, Ark.

Report of Lieut. Alexander F. Rice, Sixtieth U. S. Colored Troops.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY D,
Helena, Ark., October 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor of submitting the following report of a scout, beginning on the 1st day of and ending on the 4th day of October, 1864, which resulted as follows:

I took Hardin and Gentry with a skiff and proceeded up the river (on the mail-boat Diligence) as far as Doctor Peters', at the foot of Council Bend. Got in the skiff at 11 p. m. the same night and landed on the Arkansas shore. Proceeded to Doctor Peters' house, captured a man there by the name of W. D. Freeman. At daylight, the 2d, crossed over to the Mississippi shore and captured William C. Tannahill (with a revolver). Said Tannahill was regularly detailed to ferry Confederate soldiers by order of General Price. Came back to the Arkansas shore and proceeded to Alligator Bayou, on the Saint Francis River, and proceeded up the river five miles, and came back to Alligator; staid all night. At daylight, the 3d of October, we started back to Doctor Peters'; arrived there at 12 m. I took a bond of $1,000 for the appearance of W. D. Freeman at Helena within ten days, with Doctor Peters as security. At 1 o'clock started down the river for Helena; came twenty miles, staid all night; started at 6 a. m. the 4th; came down ten miles to Berry's, in Walnut Bend, and captured B. A. Berry and H. A. Waddell. Berry had been a prisoner, but escaped by jumping off a boat. Waddell is a private of the First Tennessee Infantry. Arrived at Helena at 5 p. m. the 4th October, 1864.

A. F. RICE,
Lieutenant, Commanding Scout.

Capt. T. C. MEATYARD, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

OCTOBER 1–31, 1864.—Operations in Arkansas.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.*

Oct. 3, 1864.—Skirmish near Mount Elba, Ark.
4–11, 1864.—Reconnaissance from Little Rock toward Monticello and to Mount Elba, Ark.
13–18, 1864.—Expedition from Pine Bluff to Arkansas Post, Ark.
19–23, 1864.—Reconnaissance from Little Rock to Princeton, Ark., with skirmish (23d) at Hurricane Creek.
24–27, 1864.—Scout from Pine Bluff toward Mount Elba, Ark.
25, 1864.—Skirmish near the Half-way House, between Little Rock and Pine Bluff, Ark.
26–28, 1864.—Expedition from Little Rock to Irving's plantation, Ark.
26–Nov. 2, 1864.—Expedition from Brownsville to Cotton Plant, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Arkansas.

No. 2.—Itinerary of the First Brigade, Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Col. Albert Erskine, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, commanding.

No. 3.—Col. John F. Ritter, First Missouri Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade.

* See also attack on steamer Resolute, October 11, p. 884; expedition from Devall's Bluff, October 16–17, p. 889; and attack on Union transport, near Saint Charles, October 22, p. 890.

No. 4.—Maj. Frederick Behlendorff, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 5.—Capt. Adolph Bechand, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 6.—Capt. Gurnsey W. Davis, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 7.—Capt. Joseph G. Tilford, Third U. S. Cavalry.
No. 8.—Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade.
No. 9.—Maj. George T. Snelling, Tenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 10.—Lieut. George J. Campbell, Third U. S. Cavalry.
No. 11.—Brig. Gen. Powell Clayton, U. S. Army, commanding post of Pine Bluff, Ark.

No. 1.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,
Little Rock, Ark., October 24, 1864.

GENERAL: Major-General Reynolds arrived here to-day and will leave here this evening for the mouth of White River. He promises to dispatch you all the news obtained here in regard to the movements of the enemy, &c. I sent 500 cavalry to drive in the enemy's pickets on the Saline and penetrate their line, which I alluded to in my last dispatch. This command went to Princeton, drove out a small force of the enemy, and found no rebel property there, except some Enfield rifles, which they destroyed. There was a considerable cavalry force encamped near Princeton, which by a flank movement got in front of our troops on their return, and attacked them about twenty-one miles from here. Our troops charged them, driving them off the field, killing 27, and capturing 1 lieutenant and 16 men. Our loss, 1 killed and 8 wounded. Dockery's brigade is picketing along the Saline. There is one brigade, about 1,000, at Monticello. Accounts are conflicting in regard to the force at Camden. Magruder is probably there with a small infantry force and considerable artillery. His infantry is encamped on Prairie D'Ane. Your estimate of his force agrees with mine. He thinks I am about to move against him with 30,000. Rebel citizens are moving south in anticipation of our advance. The cavalry that I sent to Fort Smith returned, with dates from Thayer 10th instant. He is constantly threatened by a force estimated at 8,000 under General Gano. He had about forty days' rations, had received none by way of Fort Scott, and depends upon this depot for his next supplies. It is my opinion that Price will return south by way of the Indian country, and will attack Fort Smith. I intend to get in hand all the force possible to move against Price on his return. I have spies in his camp who will notify me. General Herron has assumed to give me orders to dismount three cavalry regiments, and to reduce my cavalry pickets. In my opinion this does not come within the scope of his instructions, and I shall not comply with his directions without orders from you on the subject. He has also directed me to issue orders correcting abuses, which do not exist that I can learn. The data upon which he grounds his opinion seem to have been derived from hearsay evidence of my enemies. He has made no inspections, and has confined himself to his quarters nearly all the time since his arrival here.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

F. STEELE,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. E. R. S. CANBY,
Commanding Military Division of West Mississippi.

LITTLE ROCK, *October 31, 1864.*

GENERAL: A train of thirty-five wagons from Price's army crossed at Dardanelle on the 20th. On the 23d about fifty men from the Third Arkansas Cavalry, and some loyal men, attacked the rebel escort, killed 15, wounded others, and drove the rest into the mountains, capturing 35 wagons, 200 horses, and $11,000 in money. Seven hundred of our troops from Fort Smith came up just as the affair was over. We are watching Price's movements closely. I have both infantry and cavalry en route for Fort Smith now. General Thayer has orders to draw in his outposts and all public property to Fort Smith before Price can reach them, in case he should come that way. I think he is so hard pushed by Rosecrans, that he will go west of Fort Smith. Our cavalry from Pine Bluff had a sharp skirmish with Logan on the Little Rock road day before yesterday with success. No official reports received. I will send you a summary of operations for the month. Several escaped prisoners from Tyler, Tex., have just come in. They were assisted off by deserters who have not yet got in. It is reported that rebel cavalry is moving from Red River country toward Camden. A cavalry scouting party just returned from north side of White River. They had a skirmish, killed 3, captured 15 prisoners and 73 head of horses and mules.

F. STEELE,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. E. R. S. CANBY.

No. 2.

*Itinerary of the First Brigade, Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Col. Albert Erskine, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, commanding.**

October 7.—A reconnaissance in force toward Monticello and Mount Elba was ordered. The expedition was under Colonel Ritter, of the Second Brigade, and comprised about 700 men of that brigade and 300 of the First Brigade, under Colonel Erskine. The column marched to within fifteen miles of Monticello, and hearing that there was no enemy there, it was ordered toward Mount Elba, where the rear guard of the enemy was encountered and driven across the Saline River. The expedition returned October 10.

October 13.—Colonel Erskine, with 250 men of the First Brigade, marched toward Arkansas Post, which place was reached on the 15th.

October 18.—The expedition returned to Pine Bluff, having encountered but one small band of the enemy, from which were captured 1 prisoner and 6 horses. The expedition brought into Pine Bluff 400 head of cattle, 30 horses, and 125 sheep.

October 21.—Captain Bechand, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, with thirty men, was ordered on scout toward Mount Elba; went nine miles beyond that place; ascertained that the enemy was picketing the line of the Saline River. Returning he encounted thirty of the enemy twelve miles from Pine Bluff; charged and drove them into the woods, capturing 10 stand of arms and 6 mules.

October 25.—Captain Davis, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, with fifty men, was ordered out to repair telegraph on the Little Rock road; discovered an ambush of fifty of the enemy near Rock Springs; charged and drove them, having 2 men badly wounded. The brigade furnishes daily 205 men and 6 officers for picket, and every other day fifty men for foraging.

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* From monthly return.

No. 3.

Report of Col. John F. Ritter, First Missouri Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. 2D BRIG., CAV. DIV., SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, Ark., October 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, pursuant to Special Orders, No. 8, dated headquarters Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Little Rock, Ark., October 3, 1864, and letter from district headquarters of the same date, I proceeded to Pine Bluff with available portion of this brigade (777 aggregate), arriving there on the 6th instant. Received a re-enforcement of 250 men at Pine Bluff and marched on the 7th in the direction of Monticello, with orders to ascertain the whereabouts, strength, &c., of the enemy. Encamped within fifteen miles of Monticello that night, my patrols going within eight or nine miles of the town without encountering anything. My scouts brought me information that the enemy had positively evacuated Monticello, and that two brigades of cavalry had left that vicinity a few days before and marched to Mount Elba. Marched to Mount Elba on the 8th instant and found a picket of about fifty men there, which was quickly driven across the Saline River. This is the only force of the enemy seen on the whole march. The inhabitants of the country reported that the enemy had all withdrawn to Camden, some said, for the want of subsistence. I found it very difficult to forage my animals, and from information I received, it would have been almost impossible to do so in the vicinity of Monticello. The reported strength of the enemy is from 14,000 to 15,000, about 3,000 of this force being cavalry. Returned to Pine Bluff on the 9th and there received orders to proceed to Little Rock. Arrived at Little Rock on the 11th instant. Total distance marched, about 200 miles. A good supply of forage on the north side of the Arkansas, about midway between Little Rock and Pine Bluff, in some cases a good distance from the river, but it could be easily obtained before the rainy season sets in. Also, it was reported to me that 900 bushels could be obtained at Doctor Watkins', on the south side (middle road), about sixteen miles from Little Rock. The following is the list of casualties, viz: Missing and supposed to have deserted—James McNamara, Third U. S. Cavalry; James Maxwell, Third U. S. Cavalry; John Cosbell, John F. Crosby, First Cavalry Missouri Volunteers. One man, name unknown, wounded, First Cavalry Missouri Volunteers. Number of horses abandoned, 7; number of horses taken up, 3.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN F. RITTER,
Colonel First Missouri Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

Lieut. W. A. MARTIN,
Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cav. Division, Seventh Army Corps.

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the Second Brigade, Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Col. John F. Ritter, First Missouri Cavalry, commanding.**

During the month of October this brigade has been constantly engaged in scouting, escort, picket, and outpost duty.

October 4.—The available portion of the brigade (about 800 men) was ordered upon an important reconnaissance, under command of Col.

* From monthly return.

J. F. Ritter. Marching via Pine Bluff, Ark., the command was augmented to about 1,000 men by forces from that place, and proceeded to the vicinity of Monticello, whence, learning that the enemy had abandoned that place, it proceeded to Mount Elba, on the Saline River, the limit of the reconnaissance, where a large force of the enemy had crossed over, going south, two days before. The command returned by the way of Pine Bluff to Little Rock, where it arrived on October 11, having traveled about 200 miles. No casualties resulting from engagements with the enemy occurred during the expedition.

October 19.—Maj. G. S. Avery, Third Missouri Cavalry, in charge of about 360 men from this brigade and about 100 men from the Fourth Brigade, Cavalry Division, made a reconnaissance to Princeton, Ark. On the return, and when within twenty miles of Little Rock, the command was attacked by 500 of the enemy in ambush. After a sharp engagement the enemy were routed, leaving 27 dead on the field and carrying off a number wounded. Our casualties were as follows: Second Brigade, — killed, 1 wounded mortally, and 9 slightly and severely, including 1 commissioned officer; Fourth Brigade, 1 killed, 1 wounded. The scout returned on the fifth day.

October 26.—Captain Tilford, Third U. S. Cavalry, with about 375 men of this brigade, was ordered on a scout; traveled about sixty miles and returned on the second day. During the month this brigade has furnished a number of escorts for trains and military telegraph, and numerous other details for special service, &c.

No. 4.

Report of Maj. Frederick Behlendorff, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *October 9, 1864.*

COLONEL: In obedience to orders received from you to keep a journal during the scouting expedition which left Pine Bluff on the morning of the 7th day of October, under command of Col. J. F. Ritter, I hereby have the honor to submit to you the following report:

The troops selected for the purpose consisted of detachments from the First and Second Brigades of the Cavalry Division and were parts of the following regiments: Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, First Indiana Cavalry, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, Seventh Missouri Cavalry, First and Third Missouri Cavalry, Third Regular Cavalry, Third and Fourth Arkansas Cavalry Volunteers, U. S. Army. The command moved out of Pine Bluff on the morning of the 7th of October, toward sunrise, on the so-called lower Monticello road, Colonel Ritter's brigade in advance. This road is emphatically a bottom road for twelve miles, and winds through heavy timber throughout, except where corn-fields and here and there an old cotton-field relieve the monotony of the woods. For the first three miles from the town of Pine Bluff a shallow bayou skirts the road on the left. For the next nine miles the bayou runs on the right side of the road affording water at all seasons. Six miles from town Mr. Clay has some corn in the field on the left side of the road, a good deal of it gathered. Seven and three-quarters miles from town Mr. Currie has a big corn-field. He gathered most of his corn already; estimates it at from 800 to 1,000 bushels. Half of it belongs to the negroes who work on the place. Ten miles from town Mr. McCahey

has some corn in field on the left; could not estimate it; not much. Ten and a half miles from town Mrs. Atkins has some corn. Twelve miles from town Widow Busby's place is on the left of the road; pretends to have planted but ten acres of corn. The bayou crosses here the road to the left. Broken bridge across bayou there; ford in summer and fall easy. There is a good camping-ground at and near Mrs. Busby's place. Two miles and a half down the bayou and about one mile to the left of the lower Monticello road J. B. Rodgers has a farm and some corn; not much; could give no estimate. Beyond the bayou and bridge the ground rises and the road leaves the bottom grounds. Here begins a tract of rolling country, with open oak woods on both sides of the road. Soil sandy. Settlements few and far between. Fourteen miles from town low, swampy place, difficult of crossing during rainy weather. Right below a creek crosses the road with sufficient water during dry season. Fifteen miles from town good grazing ground is found for more than a mile on both sides of the road. Seventeen miles from town a swampy creek bottom breaks the road with thick underbrush on both sides of the road; very favorable spot for an ambush. Open oak woods with good grazing ground are found beyond this. Nineteen miles from town, old field and orchard, with tolerable good spring on the right-hand side of road and good grazing ground. One-half of a mile beyond a swampy depression of the ground occurs; creek crosses the road, with heavy brush and timbers on both sides. Open oak woods and good grazing beyond. Twenty-one miles from town poor wood farm on left of road. A big old field on the right; good place to camp. Opposite the field road leads off to the left and south. Twenty-two miles from town farm of Mrs. Wilson, with some corn in field on the right. Adjoining this is Mr. Lesel's farm, fifteen acres of corn, situate on northern edge of Drew County, boundary line of Jefferson County above farm. Twenty-three miles and a half from town large corn-field on left, farm-house of Mr. Reynolds on right. Road leading off to the left on south side of corn-field. Open woods beyond. Twenty-five miles and a half from town small wood farm; twenty acres of corn on left. One mile below, road leading off to the right on top of hill; old field below. Calvin Jones, twenty-seven miles from town; corn-field on top of hill on right-hand side of road; twenty-one miles and a half to Monticello from this place. Approaching Branchville, a poor deserted place, a good road traverses the Monticello road diagonally; one family only residing there; also one good grist-mill at Branchville worked by horse power. Right below Branchville, road to Cornersville leads to the right; distance to Cornersville five miles. Three miles beyond Branchville and about thirty-one miles below Pine Bluff the county road crosses the Monticello road at right angles; Cornersville four miles to the right; heavy timbers, with plenty of brush all over. Thirty-two miles below Pine Bluff Mr. Oldham's farm; road to Warren branches off from the Monticello road to the right and south. Very little corn left at this place. Wells shallow and easily dried up. Water for stock to right and left of the farm-house in hollows and ravines in the woods, scarce at that. Sixteen miles distance to Monticello.

The command went into camp at Mr. Oldham's place, where we learned that the rebel troops had all left Monticello, bound for Camden and finally the Red River country.

Saturday, October 8, 1864, reveille at 3 a. m.; general at 4 a. m.; boots and saddles 4.30 a. m.; to horse 5.30 a. m.; forward 6 a. m., Colonel Erskine's brigade leading. The command moved forward toward

Mount Elba on the county road, passed Cornersville at 8 a. m. Lane's brigade of rebel cavalry reported to have passed over this road on Tuesday, October 4. Road cut by wagons and traveled much. One-half mile west of Cornersville ten acres of corn in field on the right of the road. Three miles west of Cornersville a bayou crosses the road. Bridge across bayou partly destroyed; may be repaired, if necessary, in less than two hours. Very bad bottom beyond the bayou, road almost impassable; thick brush and heavy timber on both sides; frequent signs of recent encampments; road reported as the base line of rebel chain. Guard of pickets from Mount Elba to Branchville. One-half mile west of bayou the ground rises again. One mile below bayou, road comes in from the right just before you come to Robert Harper's farm. No corn there but fine situation for a camp on left of road in old field (high ground). At Robert Harper's place the Warren and Pine Bluff road crosses the Cornersville and Mount Elba road. Distance from Robert Harper's to Warren, fifteen miles. One mile west of Robert Harper's place a small creek crosses the road. About one mile beyond comes Jim Harper's place, nine miles to Mount Elba. Forty acres of corn at Jim Harper's. At this place a rebel outpost of eight or ten men is discovered by some of Lieutenant Grove's men. The advance gives chase, but the road gets worse again; perfect swampy bottom; quick pursuit impossible. One-half mile west of Jim Harper's John M. Hamilton's farm, with fifteen acres of corn and good water near, affords a fine camping-ground. Extensive pasture on the left of the road right behind Hamilton's farm-house. Road coming in from the right just below Hamilton's. Widow McKinley, seven miles to Mount Elba. Three hundred of Harrison's brigade of rebel cavalry reported to have passed this place on Thursday, October 6. One hundred bushels of corn on Davis' farm, one-fourth of a mile below McKinley's. One mile below, Davis' Creek, with plenty of good water, crosses the road, with deeply cut-in banks; bad crossing; swampy bottom on both sides of creek; heavy timber and thick underbrush on both sides of road. Widow Wudlow's, four miles to Mount Elba. Right below, Main's farm, with good water and some corn; also cattle. Small creek passes the road one-half mile below Main's farm. At Mr. Main's farm a road leads off to the right and north, intersecting the Warren and Pine Bluff road. One mile and one-fourth below Main's a county road crosses the Mount Elba road at right angles, leading south to the ford of the Saline River, two miles below Mount Elba, and leading northward into the Mount Elba and Pine Bluff road. Mr. Vint's farm, two miles to Mount Elba. The road to Pine Bluff leads off to the right and north opposite the gate of Mr. Vint's house. Mr. Vint reports that since Monday, October 3, 2,000 mounted troops, all in all, passed by to Mount Elba. The last of them, on Thursday, October 6, were 300 of Harrison's men (rebel cavalry). Rebel vedettes encountered by the advance just below Mr. Vint's; chase to the Saline by the advance. One-fourth of a mile below Mr. Vint's large old field on the right of road splendid camping-ground and good grazing. One-half mile below Vint's farm road from Pine Bluff intersects the Cornersville and Mount Elba road. Short skirmish between our advance, under command of Captain Bechand, of the Thirteenth Illinois, and some fifty or sixty rebels, supposed to be the rear guard of the rebel cavalry. Captain Bechand drove them across the Saline River in gallant style. Mount Elba consists of one old farm-house and a few dilapidated negro huts. The command returns to Pine Bluff at 2.15 p. m., on the Mount Elba and Pine Bluff road. Heavy timber and impassable thickets lining

both sides of road and shutting out the sun almost. Regular bushwhacker's country. Ground rising; soil poor and sandy. Five miles north of Mount Elba country church painted white on left of road; four miles across to Chowning's Ferry, on Saline River; favorite haunt of bushwhackers. The command goes into camp toward sunset at a deserted farm on right of road, six miles from Mount Elba.

Sunday, October 9, 1864, reveille at 3 a. m.; general 4.30 a. m.; boots and saddles 5 a. m.; forward 6 a. m. We pass bridge over Big Creek at 6.30 a. m.; bad and dangerous bottom; dense brush and tangled woods line both side of the road. A perfect paradise for an ambuscade; bridge may be held by a few men against a crowd; no way to cross except by bridge and a narrow bridle-path with ford across creek. One-fourth of a mile northeast of Big Creek bridge, a big old field extends on both sides of the road, affording room to camp for a small army; also, fine positions for artillery.

First white frost of the season on morning of October 9. Right beyond old field a road turns off to the right; 300 yards farther north another road crosses the Mount Elba and Pine Bluff road from southwest to northeast. Big field of Brewer's farm, nineteen miles to Pine Bluff, forming a square cut-out of dense woods; affords fine and ample camping-ground and a fine position, with some water in the hollow indentation in middle of field. A good field of corn, two miles above Brewer's; place of encounter with the advance of Lane's rebel brigade of cavalry and scouting expedition under Colonel Erskine on Sunday, October 11, 1864. This is the only place where corn might yet be found on the Pine Bluff and Mount Elba road. Tracks of rebel forage wagons all around and on cross-road. Frequent fresh marks of rebel camps and feed places. The Warren road joins the Mount Elba and Pine Bluff road twelve miles from town, intersecting from the right as you march north.

Rumor on the road of a rebel courier bringing the news of Price's defeat in Missouri; Fagan killed by Marmaduke in a duel. The rebel force recently concentrated at Monticello is stated to have been assembled there for the sole purpose of preventing troops in General Steele's department from following Price from Missouri. General report says that they all went back to Red River. Forage around Monticello and on the other side of the Saline River as far as the Washita. The troops under command of Colonel Ritter returned to Pine Bluff by 2 p. m. October 9, 1864.

Magnificent weather favored this expedition.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FREDERICK BEHLENDORFF,
Major Thirteenth Regiment Illinois Vol. Cavalry.

Col. A. ERSKINE,
Commanding First Cavalry Brigade.

No. 5.

Report of Capt. Adolph Bechand, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY B, THIRTEENTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY,
Pine Bluff, Ark., October 27, 1864.

I have the honor to report that I left this post on the evening of the 24th in command of twenty-six men and proceeded toward Mount Elba. Camped that night fifteen miles from here, between the Warren and

upper Monticello road. Left camp at daylight; marched within one mile and a half of Mount Elba. From there I marched by way of the Cornersville road within three miles and a half of Vance's Ferry. Camped that night two miles north of Cornersville. Left camp at daylight; marched toward the upper Monticello road, which I struck about twenty miles south of here. Marched within eleven miles of this post, where I met the enemy, from twenty-five to thirty strong, marching toward Monticello. They broke upon getting sight of my command toward a creek bottom between the Warren and upper Monticello road, about one-half mile distant from the latter road. I charged them at once and found them in line of battle in the creek bottom facing the road they had come, but which I avoided, my guide, William Milton, knowing another crossing. This movement brought me upon their rear and also confused them, so much so that after our first fire they broke without firing a gun, abandoning mules and saddles, shotguns, muskets, and a great many blankets. On account of the many vines and thick underbrush in the creek bottom I was unable to make any prisoners. I was also unable to learn to what command they belonged. The following information I obtained: Part of Parsons' brigade at Warren picketing up and down the Saline; lines are closed; citizens are not allowed to pass. All these pickets are stationed on the south side of the Saline with patrols and vedettes on the north side. As to their strength at these different ferries I learned as follows: At Mount Elba, 150; at Vance's Bluff, 50; and at Redden's Ferry, 150 men. I have also learned that a force, between 300 and 400 men, had crossed at Mount Elba on the 22d of this month to join Logan's command on the north side of the Saline River and had marched up the Saline.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BECHAND,
Captain Company B, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

Lieut. S. MONTE CAMBERN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 6.

Report of Capt. Gurnsey W. Davis, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *October 26, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the morning of October 25 I took command of a detail of fifty men of the Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry Volunteers as escort to telegraph repairer on the line of the Little Rock road. We proceeded quietly on our way, discovering no sign of an enemy until within one mile and a half of what is termed the Halfway House. Here our flankers on the left of the road discovered two mounted and armed men, whom they fired at and put to flight. After carefully examining the woods thereabouts, we proceeded half a mile farther on the road to a point where a road from the Arkansas River crosses. Here we found the wire down, and that a force of cavalry, supposed to be the enemy, had passed in the direction of the river; also that a smaller force, supposed to be a part of the same, had gone in the direction of Little Rock. We made a halt, and I drew my men up in line, which I had hardly accomplished, when our advance guard and flankers commenced firing on the enemy, whom they found in am-

bush in a ravine or hollow that crosses the line of the road some 300 yards in advance of where my main force formed in line. After firing a volley into my advance guard, the enemy, about twenty-five or thirty in number, formed a line apparently for the purpose of making a charge, which purpose we forestalled by sending a platoon around on their right and left, and charging down on them with my main force, putting them to precipitate flight. We chased them at full speed to the Half-way House, over a mile from where we first discovered them, firing on them at every opportunity. They were still running so far as we could see them. They being better mounted than my men I thought it useless to follow farther. And not having sufficient material to repair the line (over a mile of which we found down) I concluded to return to camp, where we arrived at 8.30 p. m. same evening without further encounter.

Our casualties are 1 man mortally and 1 severely wounded. That of the enemy I do not know, if any. Our mortally wounded man I was obliged to leave at a house some three miles from the Half-way House this way, he being unable to sit on his horse longer. The men under my command behaved well and are deserving of praise; also of ———, telegraph repairer, I must say that he is a man well fitted for the dangerous occupation which he follows, and I can but congratulate the superintendents of the line in their good forture in procuring the services of a man so well calculated to perform his duties at any and all times regardless of consequences.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. DAVIS,

Captain, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, Comdg. Escort.

Lieut. S. MONTE CAMBERN,

Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Post Pine Bluff, Ark.

No. 7.

Report of Capt. Joseph G. Tilford, Third U. S. Cavalry.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., *October 28, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to state that, in obedience to orders (verbal) received from Second Brigade, Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, I left this city about 12 m. of the 26th instant, with 10 officers and something near 400 men, and proceeded down the river to the steamer Annie Jacobs. I reached this point about one hour by sun, and finding the steamer safe, and being told by negroes in the neighborhood that I would find a small party of rebels most likely at the plantation of a Mr. Irving, about five miles farther down, I pushed on and encamped there, but found no rebels. The negroes told me that the day before in the afternoon their former young master, Mr. Jeff. Irving, had been there with some twenty or thirty rebels, and told them his father wanted all the young negroes to come South. The negroes ran off. They also told me that Irving told them that Colonel Logan had 1,200 rebels on the river road. The negroes seemed to think there were not more than 300 or 400 of them. They understood they had robbed a tan-yard, and carried off some stock. From all I could learn this seems to have been their object. The only party that came near the boat was the small one that visited Irving's plantation, and their object seems to have been

to run off the negroes, which they did, but not in the direction they expected. Early on the morning of the 27th I returned to the boat, went aboard, found everything safe with about forty infantrymen, and the captain not seeming to fear an attack, I concluded the object of the expedition had been accomplished, and returned to the city, which I reached about sunset on the 28th. In regard to forage, I would state that I fed at the Irving plantation, but arriving there in the night, and leaving very early in the morning, I did not see the amount of corn. I fed also at Pennington's and Perkins' plantations, near where the boat is. I found abundance for my command, but can't say how much is left. I had to leave one man sick (First Missouri) at Johnson's, about twelve miles from the city.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. TILFORD,
Captain, Third U. S. Cavalry, Commanding Expedition.

[Lieut. W. A. MARTIN,]
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cavalry Div., Seventh Army Corps.

No. 8.

Report of Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., CAV. DIV., SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Brownsville, Ark., November 3, 1864.

SIR: In compliance to orders received from district headquarters, I have the honor to report that in reading the telegram which ordered me to send the scout of 500 men to Lewisburg I read it Little Rock, by mistake, and not knowing what length of time they should have to remain to await the arrival of Major-General Herron, I did not know what number of rations to furnish. I sent rations to the 1st of November, which were all I had on hand. I supposed that they could draw rations at Little Rock. I sent no transportation because I was not ordered to do so. In relation to the scout sent east of White River, I made the detail and gave the officer in charge the instructions which I received. During the review of my brigade, October 25, 1864, Generals Steele and West asked me if I had made the detail for the scout east of White River. I told them I had not. They replied that they wished Major Snelling, of the Tenth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, to go in command, and asked me to send for him that they might give him instructions. I did so. He had an interview with them. I detailed the number of men required, 200; placed Major Snelling in command. He left this camp at 8 a. m. October 26, 1864; arrived back on the 2d instant. Herewith I have the honor to forward the report of Major Snelling.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. F. GEIGER,
Commanding Brigade.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Little Rock, Ark.

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the Third Brigade, Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, commanding.**

October 5.—The brigade marched out of Austin, Ark., at 9 a. m., to Brownsville, Ark., a distance of fifteen miles, and went into camp.

* From monthly return.

October 25.—A detachment numbering 200 men, under command of Major Snelling, Tenth Illinois Cavalry, went out on scout in the vicinity of Cotton Plant, Ark.

October 29.—A detachment left in command of Lieut. Col. John P. Knight, Ninth Iowa Cavalry, consisting of 500 men, as escort to officers to Fort Smith, Ark.

No. 9.

Report of Maj. George T. Snelling, Tenth Illinois Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY,
Brownsville, Ark., November 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the evening of the 25th of October I was sent for to come to your headquarters, that General West wanted to see me. I reported to General West, being informed by him that I was to take command of a scout that was ordered from our brigade (200 cavalry), with ten days' rations; that I would proceed to White River; there I would meet a boat sent by General Andrews to cross me over the river; then I would proceed to Madison, on Saint Francis River if I thought prudent to go that far, as the scout was not deemed a military scout, but rather a political scout; that Doctor Fryrear would accompany me as a guide and that there would be an election held in Madison to see if there were any Union men in that locality or not, and that I would return by the way of Cotton Plant if I thought it prudent to do so; that there would be no force in that country to oppose me but some small bushwhacking parties, and [to] rout them, bring in all the horses and mules and cattle that I could find. I started at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 26th from Brownsville. Arrived at the Bluffs at 4 p. m. Reported to General Andrews, stating to him my orders from General West. He then ordered me to cross White River at daylight the next morning, that he would give me seventy-five men of the Ninth Kansas and that I would proceed direct to Cotton Plant, moving out some twelve miles that day; the next morning move early to Cotton Plant, allowing no news to get ahead of me if possible; remain in Cotton Plant one day, scouring the country in that locality, bringing in all the stock there was in that part of the country and all negro men I could get, and return on the 1st day of November to Devall's Bluff. And on the morning of the 27th I moved at daylight, crossed my command, 200 of the Tenth Illinois Cavalry, seventy-five of the Ninth Kansas, with five days' rations; moved out sixteen miles and camped on the farm of one Mr. Templeton, twelve miles from Cotton Plant. The next morning moved at 4 a. m.; crossed Cache River, the Ninth Kansas in the advance, with a lieutenant with twenty-five men as advance guard. Moved on to Cotton Plant, taking all male citizens prisoners, sending them to the rear. After arriving at Cotton Plant, finding no force in the place, having completely surprised the citizens, I sent Captain Flesher with seventy-five men out north of Cotton Plant; I, taking fifty men, went out south of Cotton Plant, scouring the country of all horses and mules, burning two houses, taking 3 deserters from our army, 1 from the Twelfth Michigan, 2 from the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, taking a number of arms from the citizens. One of the houses burned by me was the house of a noted bushwhacker by the name of Simpson, keeping a gang of blood-

hounds for chasing conscripts out of the swamps. After taking five guns from the house and a lot of ammunition, I ordered the house set on fire. The other house was one of Rayborne's men's houses, who shot at my men from the house, then running, pursued by my men, who killed him near the house. Myself returning back to Cotton Plant that night. Captain Flesher, of the Ninth Kansas, returned about 9 p.m., bringing in 4 Confederate soldiers, a lot of stock, mules, and horses; reported to have killed 1 bushwhacker, burned 1 house. Camped in the town all night. The next morning I sent out scouts in all directions with orders to bring in all the stock they could find. The different scouting parties returned back to the Plant that night; camped. Started the morning of the 31st of October, 1864, with 11 prisoners, 50 head of horses, 23 head of mules, 2 wagons; moved back eighteen miles; camped on Horn Lake. Marched at 4 a. m. on the morning of 1st of November. Arrived at the river on the opposite side of the Bluffs at 1 p. m.; crossed my command over; reported to General Andrews; turned the prisoners over to the provost-marshal; camped for the night. Marched at 4 a. m. on the 2d. Arrived at Brownsville at 2 p. m. without any further trouble, having been out seven days. Casualties are as follows: Killed 3 bushwhackers, broke up 150 small-arms, shotguns and rifles, bringing in 73 head of horses and mules, 11 prisoners.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

GEO. T. SNELLING,
Major Tenth Illinois Cavalry.

Col. WASHINGTON F. GEIGER,
Commanding Third Brigade, Cavalry Division.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF LITTLE ROCK,
November 9, 1864.

The within reports* are respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding.

My orders were explicit in both cases, copying the language from department headquarters. I was not aware that the commanding general had given any special instructions to Major Snelling, and neither General West nor General Andrews had any authority from me to alter his instructions, which required him to go to Madison by way of Clarendon and return by way of Cotton Plant.

Respectfully submitted.

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

No. 10.

Report of Lieut. George J. Campbell, Third U. S. Cavalry.

LIEUTENANT: Pursuant to Special Orders, No. 20, headquarters Cavalry Division, October 18, 1864, the command composed of the following detachments started from the camp of the Third Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, October 19, 1864, at 9 a. m.: First Missouri Cavalry, 159 men and 3 officers; Third Missouri Cavalry, 42 men and 2 officers; First Iowa Cavalry, 40 men and no officers; Ninth Kansas Cavalry, 100

* Geiger's, p. 861, and Snelling's, next, *ante*.

men and 2 officers; Fourth Arkansas Cavalry, 50 men and 1 officer; Third U. S. Cavalry, 68 men and 3 officers; total 459 men and 11 officers. Assistant Surgeon Madison, Third Arkansas Cavalry, with four ambulances and attendants, accompanied the expedition. The command proceeded toward Benton, finding no opposition. Stopped to water at Collegeville for twenty minutes; distance from Benton said to be nine miles. On arriving at about two miles from Benton, sent the advance, composed of sixty-eight men of the Third U. S. Cavalry, in command of Capt. E. W. Tarlton and Lieut. William G. Hoffman, forward to charge into the town, with orders to arrest all parties found there. Captain Tarlton charged in, capturing 2 men and 3 horses of the Eleventh Arkansas (J. L. Logan's brigade), then proceeded to picket the roads leading out of town; searched for men and arms but found none; found no forage. The command then advanced toward Fagan's Ford on the Saline, where they encamped for the night. On arriving in camp foraging parties were immediately sent out across the river and found some corn, enough for one feed for the command; heard that Crawford was at Pratt's Ford with about fifty men. Distance marched, twenty-seven miles.

October 20, 1864, left camp at 5 a. m. No forage this morning. Roads very bad; numerous cross-roads. Marched toward Tulip and encamped in the woods at a branch said to be sixteen miles from Tulip; found a small quantity of forage. Distance marched, about twenty-three miles by our route.

October 21, 1864, marched at 4 a. m.; roads rough and apparently not much traveled, owing to making a detour to get to the east of Tulip, in order not to allow the enemy to hear of our approach. When about twelve miles from Princeton the advance, consisting of a detail from the First Missouri, in charge of Sergeant Stewart, and 100 men from the Ninth Kansas, the whole command in charge of Lieutenants Dow and Haughawout, Ninth Kansas, found the enemy's pickets, about sixty or seventy strong, posted in the roads. The pickets fired on the advance and then fell back toward Tulip and Princeton. Major Avery then sent part of the command through Tulip; and advanced on a road to the east of Tulip, driving the mounted infantry picket ahead of them. The squadron then went through Tulip; joined the main body at the intersection of the Tulip and Princeton roads. The command then proceeded to advance. Just then word arrived from the rear of the column that one of the ambulances had broken down. Major Avery ordered that if it could not be repaired without delay to the column to burn it, which was done. On arriving at about two miles from Princeton, organized a command to charge into town, take and hold it. Lieutenants Dow and Haughawout, Ninth Kansas, with their command, charged, supported by Captain Mills, Lieutenants Green and Adams, with their command, 159 men, First Missouri Cavalry. Lieutenant Haughawout, who was in the extreme front, found about seventy men (cavalry) drawn up in line of battle, but they broke out of town for their camp on the Camden road. We then proceeded to establish pickets on all the roads leading out of town and proceeded to search for arms and C. S. stores; found a building containing between fifteen and twenty stand of arms, which were immediately destroyed by the command. The major then sent forward the First Missouri to find the enemy's camp. Captain Mills proceeded out on the Camden road for about two miles, and found the enemy strongly posted in the edge of the woods, with a bayou between fifty and sixty feet wide along their front. He reconnoitered their position and found

it too strong to warrant an attack, and in accordance with orders fell back and joined the command. Captured during the day 14 prisoners: 12 men Eleventh Arkansas Mounted Infantry, 1 from Second Texas, and 1 man from the Monroe regiment, Cabell's brigade, with their arms. Found one man from the First Iowa Cavalry, who had been captured by the enemy on the 1st of May and detained as a nurse in the hospital; was brought in. Found also another in hospital suffering from a compound fracture of the thigh, who, Doctor Compton, the C. S. surgeon and the surgeon of our command, both say will not recover (name George Sidney, regiment Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry) who was left in charge of Doctor Compton, the C. S. surgeon, who they say has been very kind to them. The command then marched back toward Jenkins' Ferry on the Saline; halted three miles from Princeton, fed and watered the horses; started again and marched to Jenkins' Ferry, which was crossed and a camp established. Heard that the enemy was on the Saline River 300 strong, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel McMurter, Second Texas. No forage to-night. Distance marched, about forty-nine miles.

October 22, 1864, marched at 5 a. m. No forage. At 11.50 obtained corn and fed; marched again and encamped in an opening about twenty-six miles from Little Rock and eight miles from Hurricane Creek. To-day the march was made very slowly, with numerous rests, owing to the severity of the preceding march and scarcity of forage. Distance marched, about twenty-two miles.

October 23, marched at 5 a. m.; heard at a house that an immense body of men had passed during the night, moving toward Hurricane Creek; moved cautiously forward, having all on the alert, owing to the density of the timber on either side. At 8.30 a. m. crossed Hurricane and moved forward toward the Benton road. Rebels fired into the advance, and immediately the fight became general. The position held by the rebels was a semi-circle, covering our front and rear. Major Avery proceeded to put the command in position, which brought them on our front, but their line was so great that they covered both flanks. The Texans then charged across a small opening in our front, demanding a surrender. Just then Major Avery's horse was shot from under him, the ball passing through his pants and saddle into the opposite saddle-skirt. Lieutenants Haughawout, Ninth Kansas, and Clayton, Third Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, were both wounded at the same charge. Sergeant [Young], Ninth Kansas Cavalry, was shot through the head, killing him instantly. Every company in the command, and individual, was soon hotly engaged, and though the rebels charged furiously several times, in every instance our men drove them back into the bush. Our men also charged them, but they broke and ran in every direction, though their officers were seen trying to form them, but found it impossible, as our men pressed them back every time. They then fell off toward our right and rear, after which we could find no trace of them. Casualties, United States: One killed (sergeant, Ninth Kansas); wounded—First Iowa, 1 (private, mortally, since died); First Missouri, 2 (privates, severely); Third Missouri, 2 (privates, severely); Fourth Arkansas, 2 (privates, severely); Third United States, 2 (1 very severely in head); commissioned officers, Lieutenant Clayton, Third Missouri, severely; Lieutenant Haughawout, Ninth Kansas, severely. Rebel loss, as far as known, 27 killed, 1 captured.

Very respectfully submitted.

G. J. CAMPBELL,

Second Lieut., Third U. S. Cav., Actg. Engr. for the Command.

[Indorsement.]

The above report is correct in every particular and is therefore approved. I am happy to recommend to the consideration of all whom it may concern the names of all the officers who accompanied me on the expedition. Were I to mention the name of one and not the other, I would do an injustice. I will, however, mention the name of Lieutenant Haughawout, of the Ninth Kansas Cavalry Volunteers, who after receiving a severe wound in the right leg just below the knee still continued to fight as though nothing had occurred, and after the battle was over he rode his horse to Little Rock before having his wound dressed. The men behaved with the greatest coolness and bravery. No one was seen going to the rear except from just cause. In addition to the above report I will state that I received no information relative to the movements of any large bodies of the enemy. I learned from prisoners that Magruder was at Camden fortifying. I also learned that there is one regiment of infantry and three pieces of artillery and some cavalry at Washington and pickets at Arkadelphia. The enemy have three pieces of artillery at their camp two miles from Princeton.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

GEO. S. AVERY,
Major Third Mo. Vol. Cav., Commanding Expedition.

Lieut. W. A. MARTIN,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cav. Div., Seventh Army Corps.

No. 11.

Report of Brig. Gen. Powell Clayton, U. S. Army, commanding post of Pine Bluff.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *October 4, 1864—9 p. m.*

GENERAL: Lieutenant Grove, sent yesterday morning to scout in the vicinity of Mount Elba, has just come in. He captured 1 lieutenant and 8 men belonging to Major's (Texas) brigade, stationed at Mount Elba and Chowning's Ferry. He reports the following: Major's brigade had orders to cross the Saline to-day, but failed to do so on account of the rain. A portion of the command at Monticello crossed to Warren yesterday. His information coincides with that sent you to-day. I think there can be no doubt but that the enemy are for some reason changing their base. If we had the cavalry re-enforcements here now I think we might strike them a timely blow. In case the Saline should rise and hinder their crossing we may do so as it is. I expect a man in from the Saline to-morrow, from whom we can obtain further information. It may be that more can be accomplished by striking first for Mount Elba and then Monticello than by going direct for Monticello. I will telegraph you more upon this subject to morrow.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Major-General STEELE.

OCTOBER 1-NOVEMBER 27, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Craig, N. Mex., to Fort Goodwin, Ariz. Ter.

Report of Col. Oscar M. Brown, First California Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FORT CRAIG, N. MEX.,
December 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in obedience to special instructions from department headquarters, dated Santa Fé, N. Mex., September —, 1864, I left this post on the 1st day of October for the Sierra Blanca Mountain and Apache country, with the following officers, troops, and employés: Capt. William Ayers, First New Mexico Infantry, and twenty men; Capt. W. H. Lent, First New Mexico Infantry, and thirty men; Lieut. L. F. Samburn, Company H, First California Cavalry, and fifty men, five packers and herders, two guides, and one interpreter, all provided with thirty-one days' short rations and forty-two pack-mules, and seven herder's and packer's horses. The guides, Felippe Gonzales and Antonio Santillanes, having full confidence that Indians might be found in large numbers on the south side of the Sierra Blanca, I determined to proceed by the way of the Little Colorado, which takes its rise on the north side of that mountain, and crossing it, surprise them if possible. Marching by way of Bear Spring, twenty-two miles; La Carriso, fifteen miles; La Monica, sixteen miles; Sierra de Luero, thirty miles; La Cienega, thirty miles; Ojo del Gallo, twenty miles; Rio Juan Apache, three miles; Ojo del Nogal, twenty miles; Rio Seco, twelve miles. I arrived at the Little Colorado, distance from Fort Craig 168 miles, on the morning of October 12 about 10 a. m., having sent my spies ahead the night before with instructions to make a thorough reconnaissance during the night, and if signs were discovered to send back and notify me, otherwise to remain in the vicinity until my command arrived. No signs whatever were discovered of any Indians having lived in this section for a long time. Rained all the forenoon. Found this to be a clear, bold, running stream, taking its rise in the Sierra Blanca, about twenty miles distant, running to the northwest, through a beautiful bottom, 20,000 acres of which can be most easily irrigated; grass of luxuriant growth and very nutritious. This bottom will at no distant day (as soon as the Apaches are exterminated) be thickly settled by a farming and stock-growing population, as it possesses every inducement to that class of settlers. Leaving camp at 3 p. m. I proceeded six miles higher up the river into the cañon, in order that my camp might be more secluded. Rain during the night.

October 13, during the forenoon had the missing shoes of horses and mules replaced; also three days' rations cooked, and marched at 3 p. m. for the base of the Sierra Blanca. The ascent from the bottom of the cañon to the top of the mesa was almost impracticable and was only accomplished after a great deal of hard labor and the fall of one or two pack-mules, without, however, any serious injury. From this point I proceeded in advance with twenty-five mounted men, quietly and cautiously, and about 9 p. m. camped in a deep rocky cañon, well hidden from observation. About 11 p. m. remainder of command came up; distance traveled, fifteen miles.

October 14, before breaking up camp found that one of the horses belonging to Captain Ayers' mounted men had broken his leg during the night by getting in among the rocks. Causing it to be killed I proceeded on cautiously, reaching the spring called Aqua de Juan Panila,

about one mile and a half distant, and after watering stock and filling canteens, commenced the ascent of the Sierra Blanca, throwing spies and skirmishers considerably in advance. The ascent, although very steep, was fortunately not rocky, and the mountain side being covered with tall sugar-pine timber, an enemy could not observe the approach. Arriving at the summit, a magnificent spectacle presented itself to view, as instead of a rocky apex or ridge the top proved to be a level mesa, extending far to the south, east, and west, covered with nutritious grasses and sugar pine, fir, and poplar trees, the former two of dimensions truly grand. Traveling about four miles, passed a rapid running rivulet, one of the tributaries of the Little Colorado. Seven miles farther arrived at the Rio Tascoso, a small mountain brook, taking its rise on this mesa, and running down the south side into the Rio de la Cruz. Camped for the night here; whole distance traveled, fifteen miles. Very cold, with heavy frost during the night.

October 15, leaving the Tascoso at sunrise, proceeded over the mesa and same character of country to another mountain stream called the Rio Rioso, about nine miles distant, and camped to await the clearing up of the weather. Rain had been falling all the morning and the trail was very heavy. The shoes of the infantry were worn out, and many had their feet tied up in rags. At 1 p. m. the rain continuing to fall, I saddled up and continued to march, sending spies and guides five or six miles in advance. About 4 p. m. commenced the descent from the Sierra Blanca, and about 5 p. m. arrived at a clear running mountain brook, a tributary of the Rio de Labor, which having no name I called Rio Mohado. The country here is beautiful, and very much like some parts of Yuba County, Cal.

Sunday, October 16, had two days' rations cooked, and at 1 p. m. started for the Rio de Labor, distant sixteen miles, having sent out at an early hour spies and guides with instructions to be exceedingly cautious and afford me timely information if any signs were discovered. About dark arrived at the river, where I found one of the guides, who reported no fresh signs as yet, although the spies with one guide had in obedience to my instructions proceeded to examine farther. The remains of a corn-field cultivated during the summer were found here; also an old rancheria, inhabited probably during the spring or early summer. About 8 p. m. spies returned; reported no signs ahead.

Monday, October 17, broke camp at daylight, and leaving the pack-train with forty men under Captain Lent, I proceeded quietly and cautiously along the trail, which passes down the Rio de Labor. In a short time spies reported signs ahead about three days old. Climbing to the top of a high hill near the trail I examined the bottom thoroughly, as far as I could see, with an excellent glass, but could discover no signs whatever, neither smoke, cattle, or huts. Proceeding cautiously with twenty-five men from Company H, First California Cavalry, and spies two or three miles in advance, I traveled about eight miles farther, when the spies returned to me with a squaw, captured by them on the trail. She was advancing along the same trail they were following, and concealing themselves until she approached, they took her prisoner. This capture altogether prevented the attack on the rancheria, being deferred until daylight next morning, as her non-return at night would alarm the Indians and put them on their guard. Directing Captain Ayers to take his detachment of twenty men and throwing them out as skirmishers to proceed cautiously down the creek to the left, so as to avoid being seen, if possible, and sending Lieutenant Samburn with a detachment of the cavalry (dismounted) up a ravine to the right, with

similar instructions, I yet had some hopes of surprising them, although a broad and level tract of land about two miles in width intervened between my position at that time and the opposite hills, where I expected to find the rancheria. Proceeding in person with fifteen men also to the right, but to the left of Lieutenant Samburn, I passed this open plain as cautiously as possible, and about 3 p. m. met Lieutenant Samburn returning, who reported no sign of rancheria in that direction. Changing my course so as to intercept Captain Ayers, I met that officer about 4.30 p. m. and found that he had captured three other squaws while they were picking berries and grass seed near the creek, and had also found the rancheria and one small two-year-old colt.

There were evidently no Indians at the rancheria at the time, they having gone off early in the morning, the men in search of game, the women in search of grass seed. Through the medium of the interpreter I learned that there were only five men, five women, and three children at the rancheria. They had no food laid up for winter, and subsisted entirely on the grass seeds and what little game the men killed. The colt captured was to have been killed the next day. But for the extreme timidity (using no harsher term) of the guides I could undoubtedly have captured the whole party, as they had no notice whatever of my approach. I discovered subsequently that the guide took the spies but a short distance ahead of the command the night before, representing to them that it was extremely dangerous to go any farther. Had he been possessed of but a moderate share of physical courage, I could have easily discovered this rancheria during the night, and captured every soul at daylight in the morning. This was the more to be regretted by me, as I knew that the escaped Indians would at once give notice to the neighboring rancherias before I could possibly discover them. The guide knew of but one trail, which of course was the old trail traveled years before by traders. Trails ran in many directions, but as I very soon discovered, it was a futile effort to endeavor to find Indians by the first well-beaten trail that presented itself. Camping about one mile from the rancheria, and posting a few men in ambush around it after dark to capture or kill any Indian that might venture to return during the night, I used every effort to induce the captives to lead me to a neighboring rancheria, if any there were, threatening to hang one of them. They finally consented to show me in the morning, declaring their inability to find it during the night. The night was dark, the country over which I had to pass very rough, and knowing how easy it was to lose a trail that was scarcely perceptible in places during the daytime, I was, much against my wishes, compelled to wait for daylight. The stream running through this bottom is clear and permanent, and to a white settler the situation would be most desirable, as the bottom is as well adapted to farming as the upland is to grazing, which is truly excellent. This stream (Rio de Labor) runs into the Prieto about fifteen miles below this point. A very prominent and isolated mountain to the north side of this creek and near the rancheria, conical in shape, I called Sugar Loaf Mountain; distance traveled this day from last camp about ten miles.

Tuesday, October 18, leaving camp at daylight, having previously, and while it was yet dark, detailed one non-commissioned officer and ten men to relieve the men posted around the rancheria during the night, and instructing them to remain in concealment two or three hours after my departure, I crossed the creek and commenced the ascent of the mountain, which was rugged and rough in the extreme, over an Indian trail which could be plainly seen in daylight, but could not have

been seen by night. It commenced raining before arriving at the summit, and before proceeding many miles the traveling became very heavy. Pressing on, however, with the squaw as guide, I came in sight (about five miles distant) of a creek called by them the Rio Ancho. Leaving the train under Captain Ayers to come on leisurely, I ordered Captain Lent with fifteen men of his company to proceed cautiously down a ravine to the right and approach the supposed locality from the opposite side. Lieutenant Samburn with ten of his men dismounted I sent in the opposite direction with similar instructions. Allowing sufficient time for these officers to make the necessary detour, I proceeded in the direction indicated by the squaw, and after several hours spent in efforts to approach the rancheria undiscovered, Captain Lent finally came upon it, but found it deserted, and on examination it was evident that the Indians had left during the preceding night. There were thirteen huts here of a more permanent character than those usually seen. There were horse and mule tracks going two and three together in every direction, but the falling rain nearly obliterating them rendered it impossible to pursue, beside the country hereabout was so completely covered with rocks and granite bowlders that it would be difficult to follow a trail at any time. One of the men found an old rifle here covered up in the straw. Had the guide been familiar with the country, on what may be termed the side trails, I should have been able to discover this rancheria in time to kill or capture every Indian, as it was so located as to be easy of approach. Returning up the creek (Rio Ancho) where I had directed the train to be halted and unpacked, I camped for the night, rain continuing to fall. The nearest point of the Prieto was distant about fourteen miles. The river takes its rise in the Sierra Blanca about twenty-five miles east of this point, and running nearly south a short distance unites with another branch coming out of a spur of the Sierra Blanca. The first of these forks is called by the Indians the Prieto Delgado. After forming the junction the river turns first to the west, then to the northwest, and forms the main fork of the Salinas River, and not the South Fork of the San Carlos, as has been erroneously stated. It is a clear, bold, rapid running stream, three times the size of the San Carlos; and although it only averages about three feet in depth at this time, there are indications that the volume of water flowing through it at times is very great.

At 6 p. m. I ordered Captain Ayers with twenty-five men to proceed to the Prieto Delgado, and reaching it before day, to send out his spies in every direction and endeavor, if possible, before daylight to find the rancheria which the captives promised to show in that locality. Although the trail was very muddy, rocky, and the night very dark, and after being lost for several hours, he finally succeeded in reaching the river, but could neither hear nor see any signs of Indians. Waiting until day he proceeded cautiously to examine the country, but found no recent signs of Indians or rancherias. It was not only impossible for him to cross the river, but he could not even approach it very near. From this point (the junction) to its junction with the Salinas I am informed that there are but two crossings, both of which I saw, and one of them was almost impracticable. The river throughout its whole length flows through the deepest and most rocky cañon I ever saw. The sides of the cañon are nearly perpendicular, and in some places nearly 1,000 feet high. No Indian can live on this river. All that are in this section of country must of necessity live away from the river in the ravines and near springs.

Wednesday, October 19, broke camp at daylight and marched in a westerly direction, intending to strike the river at the nearest point from which Lieutenant Samburn had been ordered to commence his scout the preceding night down the river, and to which Captain Ayers had been ordered to return by way of the river. Supposing it to be like most rivers, and that access to it or down it was not impracticable, I had hoped to surprise them while on the move from one point to another, and that if any escaped from Captain Ayers they would be intercepted by Lieutenant Samburn or myself. On approaching within two or three miles of the river I found it to be almost impassable—the worst I ever saw. The infantry could proceed much more rapidly than cavalry, and I ordered all the latter dismounted, to proceed on foot. At last I reached the river, or, more properly speaking, the river cañon, the river itself being at least 500 feet beneath the bluff on which I stood. At once I was satisfied of the impossibility of my orders to Captain Ayers and Lieutenant Samburn being executed. No troops could travel along the river, either up or down; nor could I discover any traces of Lieutenant Samburn. He had evidently gone far beyond the point at which I had desired him to strike the river. As he only had rations for twenty-four hours and Captain Ayers for forty-eight hours, I could not proceed and leave them to follow my trail. I therefore determined to return to my camp of the day before and await their arrival, at the same time sending out scouts over the mountains to notify these officers of my movements. Returning, therefore, and throwing out scouts in different directions, I soon had the satisfaction of seeing Lieutenant Samburn approach, and about half an hour afterward Captain Ayers came in and reported that no sign whatever had been discovered by him, and that, although he had traveled about eighteen miles in sight of the river, he had been unable to water his horses, there being no practicable descent. Lieutenant Samburn had no horses with him, and descended to the river far below the point intended, the guide having lost himself during the night, so that at daylight he did not know where he was, whether above or below the point to which he was ordered. Neither did he discover any sign of Indians. Rain nearly all night.

Thursday, October 20, resting men and animals; at 1 p. m. started for the crossing of the Prieto. Traveled without trail, but in the supposed direction, the guide having miscalculated the distance, and after traveling until 5 p. m. over the roughest mountains in the whole country, I left the guide looking for a practicable descent, and changing my course to the north at right angles to the river, I soon came to an open mesa covered with good grass, a small creek of water, and an old rancheria. Camped for the night, and ordered five days' rations to be cooked. No rain to-night, but heavy frost and very cold.

Friday, October 21, marched at 6 a. m., having previously sent out guides to look for the trail or any trail, as the traveling of the day before, if repeated, would break down all the animals. Found the trail about a mile and a half distant, and following it up about eight miles commenced the descent to the river. The sight here was truly grand, but not at all pleasing to the commander of a detachment having horses and mules. After a toilsome effort of one hour the command reached the river. Leaving Captain Ayers and Lieutenant Samburn with fifty men to camp for the night and follow the next day, I proceeded with Captain Lent and the remainder of the detachment (cavalry and infantry) with five days' cooked rations to the Water Holes, fifteen miles distant, where I arrived about sunset. Spies returned

and reported signs, having discovered the trail of three Indians having a burro with them. They had been gathering the prickly pear fruit, and were proceeding leisurely in a northwesterly direction.

Saturday, October 22, sent out spies to the east, west, and south, with instructions to follow up any fresh trail that might be found, and to exercise every precaution to avoid being discovered. I also sent out spies to follow up the trail discovered the evening before. About sunset the various scouts returned without having discovered anything. The trail to the northwest was followed about eight miles, and led in the direction of two streams called the Little Rivers or Rillitos, where the guides represented I would be very likely to find Indians. Captain Ayers having arrived with the balance of the command, I determined to proceed at an early hour in the morning, and approaching as near as practicable to find out exact location of rancheria and surround it during the next night.

Sunday, October 23, commenced raining very hard about 12 m. Everything wet and mud deep. Marching at 4.30 a. m. Rain pouring down. After daylight found trail of Indians and burro obliterated. Traveling excessively heavy and shoes of infantry dropping to pieces. Cavalrymen all compelled to walk. After going about ten miles found where Indians had rested and eaten "tanitos." No trail, however, could be followed from this point. Proceeding cautiously toward the deep cañon, where I expected to find the rancheria, I discovered that no Indians had lived here for several months. They had made their mescal and probably had passed most of the summer here, but no recent traces were to be found.

This creek, and also another about four miles distant to the north, both of which uniting about ten miles to the southwest formed the East Fork of the San Carlos, are evidently favorite summer resorts for the Indians as the mescal and prickly pear fruit seems to be quite abundant here. Proceeding to this latter fork and sending scouting parties in every direction to look for signs, I camped in the cañon to await the result. No discovery made, and rain continuing to fall, passed a disagreeable night. Having but five days' short rations left, and the distance to Fort Goodwin by the trail requiring at least that time to travel it, the men being nearly all barefooted, and the horses and mules nearly worn out, from the effects of exposure in the cold rains and heavy frost, I determined to commence the march early in the morning, or as soon as the weather would permit, for that post, by way of the San Carlos, Camp Rigg, and the Gila River. I came to this conclusion with extreme reluctance, as I had no doubt of the existence of a rancheria within twenty or twenty-five miles, although I could not as yet tell in what direction; but as I felt satisfied that the Indians by this time must be aware of the presence of troops in the country, and as the heavy and constant rains had obliterated all trails, so that to find them would be a matter of mere chance, I was forced to the conclusion to march at once for Fort Goodwin, and the men who had been walking barefooted day and night over the rocks and through mud, and living on one tortilla per day, hailed the order with delight, although I must do them the justice to say that they have borne the unusual hardships cheerfully and without a murmur, joining in the laugh of their comrades, excited by the ludicrous appearance of their feet tied up in rags, and yet the certainty of a fight would have induced them to go unhesitatingly without eating as long as nature would permit.

Monday, October 24, mud three inches deep; blankets, clothing, and everything very wet and heavy; waited for it to clear up somewhat.

About 11 a. m. commenced raining again and poured down for an hour, when I struck camp and started for the San Carlos, distant eighteen miles. Making a wide detour to the north, I crossed one of the many deep cañons which intersect this mesa, when, changing my course to the southwest, I traveled over the mesa (level and covered with grass) for about twelve miles, when I commenced descent into the San Carlos Valley over what appeared to have been the great Indian thoroughfare between the upper and lower country for ages. The descent occupied two hours, and must have been at least 2,000 feet in the perpendicular. Reached the South Fork of the San Carlos after dark and camped for the night. Very little grass here; distance traveled, eighteen miles.

Tuesday, October 25, at daylight proceeded six miles farther to the San Carlos, and camped to give the animals good grazing, which they failed to get last night for the second time only on the trip. Leaving here at 1 p. m. I traveled down the San Carlos, passing Camp Rigg, and arrived at the Gila about 5 p. m.; distance traveled, fifteen miles. Two old and very poor mules gave out to-day and I was compelled to kill them.

Wednesday, October 26, leaving the detachment under command of Captain Ayers, and taking an escort I proceeded to Fort Goodwin, where I arrived at 2 p. m., and met with the very welcome hospitalities of Major Smith, the commanding officer, and Major Gorman, of my own regiment, and Surgeon Whitney, post surgeon.

Thursday, October 27, about 12 m. my command arrived, when I immediately commenced refitting the expedition for the return to Fort Craig by way of Negrita, San Francisco, and Azul Rivers.

Friday, October 28, ordered off Captain Ayers with the command at 2 p. m. with instructions to proceed up the Gila until good grazing could be found and camp for the night. On leaving one mule was reported missing and could not be found after the most diligent search. It was either with the post herd and not recognizable or had been stolen. I left here in hospital two men from Captain Lent's company and two from the cavalry.

October 29, 1864, leaving Fort Goodwin at an early hour and proceeding to my camp, I moved ten miles higher up the Gila and camped for the night. Sunday, October 30, a private of Captain Lent's company being taken very sick during the night, I sent him back to Fort Goodwin for medical treatment. Traveling up the river about eighteen miles, I camped on a beautiful bottom covered with fine grass. Three men belonging to Company H, First California Cavalry, failed to come into camp. At a late hour one returned and stated that he had taken the road to Fort Cummings by mistake and gone some distance out of the way.

Monday, October 31, the grass being good and camp well sheltered, I determined to remain here all day and rest my wearied animals, as they certainly required it, the more especially as a long and hard journey was before them. The men missing yesterday failing to come up, I sent out parties in search, but no traces being found I concluded their absence was intentional and began to suspect they had deserted.

Tuesday, November 1, determining to remain one more day and give my stock the benefit of the excellent grass, also to search for the missing men, sent parties out in different directions, but at sunset no traces had been found. It was quite evident they had followed the road to Fort Cummings, and their trail could not be distinguished from others traveling in the same direction on the day they were first missed.

Wednesday, November 2, called about 3 a. m. by the officer of the day, who reported three men missing who had been relieved from guard at 2 a. m., and as their saddles and blankets could not be found it was evident they had deserted. The night was very dark and immediate pursuit was out of the question. At daylight sent out scouts to look for the trail, and about 7.30 a. m. found they had gone toward the Fort Cummings road. Immediately ordered Lieutenant Samburn, one non-commissioned officer, and ten men to take the trail and pursue until he came up with them, but as they had stolen three of my best mules I had but little hopes of their capture. Awaited here all day to be present if Lieutenant Samburn should meet with unexpected success and return.

Thursday, November 3, Lieutenant Samburn not returning, broke up camp at daylight and proceeded up the river to the mouth of the Bonita, crossing the Gila several times on the way and entering the Gila Cañon. Camped for the night; distance traveled, about twelve miles.

Friday, November 4, crossed the river at an early hour (fording very cold for the dismounted men) and ascending the mountain marched along an exceedingly rough trail, over high hills and deep ravines, which told heavily on the stock, and for the first time on the scout was compelled to destroy a cavalry horse, which had failed entirely. It was a very weak and inferior horse, and I had expected to lose him in the earlier part of the expedition. Two old quartermaster horses used by the packers and herders also gave out, but were finally got into camp. The distance traveled was only twelve miles, yet it was of such a character as to be very fatiguing to men and animals. Camped at some water-holes about six miles distant from the Gila. Grazing good.

Saturday, November 5, marched at daylight and traveled about six miles in a northerly direction over a much better trail than that of yesterday, reaching the Rio Gila about two miles above the San Francisco. The guide not seeming to be certain as to the trail from this point, but rather urging that I should travel higher up the cañon and over the hill to the east side of the river before making for the San Francisco, I pitched my camp and sent out spies and guides to the north, east, and west to search for a trail. In about two hours found a good trail leading to the north and nearly parallel with the San Francisco.

Sunday, November 6, marched at an early hour, and on reaching the top of the mountain, beheld the River San Francisco, from its mouth to the mouth of the cañon, miles away, although it may be properly called a cañon the whole distance. Traveling over a ridge running parallel to the river, I at last descended and struck the river and crossed to the west side, but was soon compelled to cross and recross many times again before I reached camp, at a point which I denominated Aztec Fort, in consequence of the fortifications erected on the top of a bold and abrupt bluff commanding the entrance to the cañon, this being the second one I had encountered on the march, the other was on the Rio Ancho, to the north of the Prieto. Considerable skill and knowledge of the science of attack and defense was evinced in their construction. Centuries may have elapsed since they were constructed, and unless thrown down by human hands they will stand for centuries to come. In crossing the river to-day an old, poor, and broken-down mule mired down, and not being able to get him out, ordered him to be killed. Distance traveled, eighteen miles.

Monday, November 7, commenced raining before morning and rained all day. River rising, and impossible to move.

Tuesday, November 8, rain continued to fall. Surrounding hills and mountains covered with snow. Very cold and animals suffering much.

Wednesday, November 9, rain having ceased, commenced the march up the river bottom, fording twice. Found it so swollen and rapid I was compelled to strike out over the mountains and endeavor if possible to make some progress by traveling parallel to the river. After a laborious and fatiguing march of only twelve miles was compelled to strike the river again, and camped for the night in a small well-sheltered flat covered with good grass.

Thursday, November 10, as the river was yet too high to ford with safety and traveling over the mountains entirely out of the question, I was compelled to lie here all day. Found at this spot remains of an old camp and indications of considerable work done in gold digging. Some of my men, having received permission, sunk or rather opened up, one or two old holes and got a very good prospect of fine quality gold. I am of opinion that the placer is very limited, however, and do not think it would pay. One of my guides (Felippe Gonzales) informed me that Captain Shirland, with his company of the First California Cavalry, was here at one time, he (Gonzales) being with him as guide.

Friday, November 11, the river having fallen considerably, broke up camp at an early hour, and traveling ten miles higher up the river to a well-sheltered and excellent spot for grazing, determined to leave the pack-train and cavalry horses with a part of the command, and taking cooked rations for several days to proceed on foot to the Sierra Blanca by way of the Rio Negrita and Azul. In one or both of these localities I expected to find Indians if there were any in this section of country.

Saturday, November 12, sent Captain Ayers with twenty-four men and five days' cooked rations to the Negrita with instructions to scout along the river to its source, and endeavor if possible to find Indians. He was also ordered to return at the expiration of that time to the camp, which would on that day be moved to the junction of the Azul and San Francisco. Leaving Captain Lent in command of the camp, I proceeded with twenty-five dismounted cavalry (taking seven days' cooked rations) to the mouth of the Azul, about seven miles distant, and following up that stream, camped for the night, about fifteen miles from its junction with the San Francisco. The whole cañon is very deep and narrow and the river has to be crossed almost constantly. Weather and water very cold, and shoes beginning to wear out. Found here indications of an old Indian camp, of a party probably twenty or thirty strong, having with them a goodly number of animals. It was too old, however, and too much rain had fallen upon the trail to permit of its being followed.

Sunday, November 13, leaving camp before daylight I proceeded cautiously up the stream, crossing and recrossing, expecting to find Indians or fresh signs certainly during the day. About 11 a. m. passed remains of an old rancheria, habited probably a year since. About 2 p. m. came upon the remains of another, apparently of the same age, also an old corral and some little fencing in a flat in the opening of the cañon. Resting here about an hour, followed on up the river, which had narrowed down very much, the water in many places rushing through a narrow gorge in the solid granite walls, cut by its action for ages. About 4 o'clock turned up the mountain to the right of the river, following an

old Indian trail, and arriving at the summit found myself upon the southeastern extremity of the Sierra Blanca. Snow on all sides and weather very cold. My course now was very nearly east, and arriving at a clear running stream in the mesa about four miles from the river, camped for the night. I had almost forgotten to add that the remains of an old camp, either troops or citizens, was observable on the river a few hundred yards above the point at which I turned off. Very cold night; snow on all sides and water in canteens frozen. Distance traveled this day about eighteen miles.

Monday, November 14, marching as soon as it was light enough to see the trail, I traveled on over the mesa, which was rolling and hilly, intersected by many deep cañons. About 12 m. overtook the spies and guides, who were awaiting me. The guide stated that if any Indians were in this section of country at all they would be found about four miles distant at a place called Rancheria Vieja, and as the approach appeared to be somewhat open, I sent forward the spies and guide with instructions to meet me at a designated point, and awaited until toward night before marching. At 4 p. m. moved on. I proceeded about four miles and met two of the spies awaiting with the information that no signs were discovered, and that the guide with the other spies had gone on to the San Francisco, distant about six miles. I therefore proceeded on and arrived at the river about 8.30 p. m. and camped for the night.

Tuesday, November 15, at daylight sent spies up and down the river; also to the mountains east of the river about three miles distant. No signs were discovered except an old rancheria of eleven huts, occupied apparently during the summer. After the return of the spies, about 11 a. m., I passed on down the river, looking for signs and following up an old trail scarcely visible. I came upon another old rancheria of ten or twelve huts, inhabited probably during the last winter. The land on and near the river here is very fine, and covered with excellent pasture. No finer farming or stock ranch could be desired. Bottom land can be easily irrigated and the numerous beaver dams here already overflow quite a number of acres. Crossing to the east side of the river, and striking for the range of mountains to the east, already alluded to, and which is approached by an elevated mesa, covered with pasture for countless herds, I passed in the direction of a deep gorge, which looked like a favorable locality for Indians. Arriving here and descending into the cañon, which was very deep, I found traces of Indians about one month old. It being now very late, I camped for the night. Distance traveled about ten miles.

Wednesday, November 16, passing down this cañon I found a trail of Indians made immediately after a rain, which might be two weeks and might be two months old. Followed it up and turning into a side cañon on the left, found quite a number of horse and mule tracks intermingled with moccasin tracks. This side cañon was filled up with trees, stumps, and dense chaparral, and gave me infinite toil to force my way through. At last came upon a temporary rancheria, which appeared to have been inhabited but a few days, and solely for the purpose of concealment. It was not visible fifty yards distant. I ascended the cañon as high as possible and then proceeded to the top of the mountain, or mesa, which it proved to be, followed up to the mountain itself, but found no further signs. Snow began to fall and the cold was intense, and when I turned to retrace my steps I found it necessary to be expeditious to avoid much suffering. Descending to the cañon where the trail was first struck, I proceeded as rapidly as possible (rain

falling in the meantime, although it was snowing above). After a toilsome and laborious march arrived at a point on the San Francisco River known as the Travesilla and camped for the night. Distance traveled, fifteen miles. Having but two days' rations left, and being satisfied that there were no Indians in this section of country, I determined to march in the morning for El Tenaje, the point at which I had directed Captain Ayers to meet me.

Thursday, November 17, marched at an early hour for the Tenaje, six miles west of Fort West, and traveling over the best trail I had seen in the country, arrived about 3 p. m.; distance traveled, twenty-three miles.

Friday, November 19, waked up to find the ground and my blankets covered with snow. Rations very short, but fortunately one of the men had killed two antelopes the evening before. Continued to snow until about 2 p. m., when I moved two miles farther down the creek to procure a better supply of fuel. About 5 p. m. Captain Ayers came up with the rest of the command. Men and animals very much fatigued from the long day's march through the snow. Learned that he was unable to leave his camp that morning until 9 a. m., in consequence of the heavy snow-storm. Captain Ayers reported that one of the packer's horses, a large but weak animal, had in climbing up the mountain fallen backward and been killed. Several others had been left back on the road unable to proceed farther.

Saturday, November 20, awaiting the arrival of the horses left on the road yesterday, I did not break up camp until 2 p. m., when I proceeded to Fort West, distant six miles, and occupying the quarters not yet destroyed by the fire, which had burned down a large portion of them. I passed the most comfortable night since leaving Fort Goodwin. Fort West is beautifully located, and the country round about admirably adapted for farming and stock raising, the facilities for irrigation being excellent. It is truly cause for sad reflection to see so many thousand acres of fine land scattered throughout this portion of Arizona uninhabited, uncultivated, unused, in consequence of the depredations of a few thieving, roving, murdering Apaches, who are too weak to attack or fight but strong enough to steal and assassinate.

Sunday, November 21, having missing horse and mule shoes replaced during the forenoon, left Fort West at 12 m., and traveling about twelve miles over a fine wagon road, camped at Santa Lucia for the night. Water and grass plenty, but wood scarce.

Monday, November 22, marching at 6 a. m. over the excellent wagon road for the greater part of the distance, arrived at San Vincente about 3 p. m. Very cold, but fortunately plenty of fuel.

Tuesday, November 23, marching at sunrise I took an escort and proceeded by way of Pino Alto, which I found to be a miserable little place, a few persons only remaining here, for what purpose a casual observer cannot tell. I was much disappointed, as I had expected to find considerable of a mining town. No mining whatever appears to be done here at present. Remaining here but a short time, I turned back toward the copper mine, and, shortly overtaking my command, I proceeded to that point, where I arrived after sunset, having traveled about twenty-one miles. It was reported shortly after camping that two men belonging to the cavalry detachment had fallen behind, their horses becoming tired, and that probably they would not come in until morning.

Wednesday, November 24, directing Captain Ayers to send back for the men missing yesterday, who were supposed to be not more than

two miles from the camp, and to march leisurely for Fort McRae, via Mule Spring, La Cienega, and Rio de los Animas, I proceeded in advance and arrived at that post about 9 p. m. of the 26th ultimo, and eagerly partook of the generous hospitalities of Major Willis, the post commander.

Saturday, November 27, arrived at Fort Craig and terminated the expedition, which has been barren of any other result than the determination of the non-habitation of the Sierra Blanca country by the Indians at this season of the year. I do not think there were ever over 100 Indians altogether throughout the section of the country lying between the Sierra Blanca on the north, the San Carlos on the west, and the Gila and San Francisco on the south and east. No tracks or trails of Indians or animals throughout the whole section, except between the Prieta and Sierra Blanca, where not exceeding 100 at the most might probably be found. It is entirely too cold for a winter residence, and were it not, hunger would drive them to the Rio Grande or Sonora.

The officers and enlisted men of my command are entitled to much credit for their cheerfulness under hardships and eagerness to find a foe. The enlisted men vied with each other in creditable efforts to attract the attention of their officers, although traveling by day and by night, early and late, in rain and snow storms, and through the mud and mire, most of the time with cold food, at times with none at all, yet they were ever ready to obey all orders with cheerfulness and alacrity. Company H, of my own regiment, under Lieutenant Samburn, although but a few months in the department, proved themselves to be excellent soldiers, and may be relied upon in any emergency. The conduct of Orderly-Sergeant Chambers, of that company, is particularly deserving of commendation. Captain Ayers' detachment were mostly veterans, and maintained the reputation already acquired. Captain Lent's company have been but recently mustered into the service, but behaved themselves well. On my arrival at this post I found Lieutenant Samburn already arrived, and his report, forwarded to department headquarters, speaks for itself. The prisoners taken I will forward to Los Pinos at the earliest practicable moment.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

OSCAR M. BROWN,
Colonel First Cavalry, California Volunteers, Commanding.

Capt. BENJAMIN C. CUTLER,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of New Mexico, Santa Fé, N. Mex.

OCTOBER 2–8, 1864.—Expeditions to the Amite River, New River, and Bayou Manchac, La.

Report of Lieut. Col. Thomas Logan, One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Infantry (mounted).

HEADQUARTERS 118TH ILLINOIS MOUNTED INFANTRY,
Hermitage Plantation, La., October 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders I have the honor to report that during the past week I have made two expeditions to Amite River and Bayou Manchac, two others to New River only. The coast has been patrolled for ten miles above this place and six miles below daily In

addition to the ordinary picket duty, I have had stationed at Southwood plantation twenty-five men four nights and three days in the past week, and notwithstanding my continual efforts to give the plantation protection, the Confederates or jayhawkers made a raid on the place, capturing 2 horses, 2 mules, about $1,000 worth of goods and supplies, yesterday morning. There are twenty-five men there now, and for the present I shall endeavor to keep a guard on the plantation. I captured 3 prisoners during the week and sent them to New Orleans as ordered. I inclose receipt for them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. LOGAN,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Regt. and Forces opposite Donaldsonville.

Capt. T. W. HURST,
A. A. A. G., First Brig., Cavalry Div., Baton Rouge, La.

OCTOBER 3-6, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to Bayou Sara, La., and skirmishes.

*Report of Brig. Gen. Michael K. Lawler, U. S. Army.**

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., October 6, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report for the information of the general commanding that on the 3d of October, in accordance with the request of Major-General Dana, commanding District of Vicksburg, I dispatched Col. J. J. Guppey, Twenty-third Wisconsin Volunteers, in charge of an expedition to Bayou Sara, with instructions to demonstrate toward Woodville and Clinton in favor of a force which was to be started on the same day by General Dana from Fort Adams to Woodville. Colonel Guppey's command consisted of three regiments of his own brigade at this place, 500 cavalry under Colonel Haynes, and two sections of artillery. Establishing his headquarters at Saint Francisville, the colonel pushed out strong parties toward Woodville and Clinton, meeting the enemy in some force on both roads, but they fell back rapidly before our advance and could not be brought to fight. On the 4th a farther advance was made with like result. On the 5th, having complied with his instructions, the colonel withdrew his command to Bayou Sara, embarked and returned to this place in good condition, bringing with him 6 prisoners. Nothing was seen or heard of the force which was to have been sent from Fort Adams, and I have since been informed by Major-General Dana that the troops to compose the expedition did not arrive at Natchez, "being delayed by an engagement with the enemy in the vicinity of Port Gibson." He expected that they would arrive at and depart from Fort Adams about one day later than that appointed. I have not judged it expedient under the circumstances to return Colonel Guppey or any portion of his command to Saint Francisville. Major Cameron with 150 men of the Second New York Cavalry went down the river to West Baton Rouge on the 3d instant as an escort to telegraph repairers. He returned the evening of the 5th with 8 prisoners, three of them soldiers and five suspicious characters supposed to be smugglers.

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* See also Vol. XXXIX, Part I, p. 828.

Colonel Dye holds Simsport with his command; has crossed the Atchafalaya with a portion of his force and has taken up the enemy's camp on the opposite side and driven them without loss to himself beyond Yellow Bayou. He does not estimate their force in that vicinity altogether at more than 200, and thinks they have but a small force between this and Alexandria. Both sides of the river are also in our possession at Morgan's Ferry. The troops at that point are under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Baldwin, Eighty-third Ohio Volunteers. This detachment and that at Simsport have ten days' rations and will be continued in their occupation of these places for the present unless I am otherwise ordered by the major-general commanding. They can be brought into camp at any time inside of twenty-four hours.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. S. C. FARRINGTON,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Nineteenth Corps, New Orleans, La.

OCTOBER 5-9, 1864.—Expedition from Baton Rouge to Clinton, Greensburg, Osyka, and Camp Moore, La.

REPORTS, ETC.*

No. 1.—Itinerary of the Department of the Gulf, Maj. Gen. Stephen A. Hurlbut, U. S. Army, commanding.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Albert L. Lee, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.

No. 1.

Itinerary of the Department of the Gulf, Maj. Gen. Stephen A. Hurlbut, U. S. Army, commanding.†

October 5.—Brigadier-General Lee, with a command of 1,000 cavalry, started from this place, visiting Clinton, Greenburg, Osyka, and Camp Moore, during which time he captured the following: 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 47 enlisted men. At Camp Moore the garrison was driven out and the flag captured; also 200 horses and mules. The camp was desolated, and 4,000 pounds of bacon, 12 barrels whisky, 100 dozen boots and shoes, a large amount of Confederate clothing and gray cloth, 2,000 pounds salt, and 2,000 sides of leather destroyed.

The command returned on the 9th instant. The command lost during the scout 1 man missing. The Cavalry Division report during the month the following captures of prisoners: 1 lieutenant-colonel, 2 captains, 4 lieutenants, and 49 enlisted men, besides the capture of men engaged in contraband trade with the enemy, together with a considerable amount of contraband goods, which captures have been promptly reported to the provost-marshal-general Department of the Gulf.

First Lieut. John O. Massey, Eleventh New York Cavalry, was captured by the enemy October 23 while on scout within the enemy's lines, he having straggled from the command.

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* See also Vol. XXXIX, Part I, p. 828.

† From monthly return.

No. 2.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Albert L. Lee, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.

BATON ROUGE, LA., *October 9, 1864.*
(Received 1.20 p. m.)

GENERAL: I am just returned; captured a lieutenant-colonel, captain, 2 lieutenants, and 43 enlisted men. At Greensburg burned a tannery and 2,000 sides of Confederate leather; at Osyka destroyed 4,000 pounds of bacon, 12 barrels of whisky, 100 dozen boots and shoes, and large quantity of corn and meal; also captured the telegraph operator and many important dispatches; destroyed Camp Moore and large amount of clothing and gray cloth; captured 200 head of horses and mules. Our stock is in good condition. Endless niggers have followed us in.

Yours, respectfully,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General.

Brigadier-General DAVIDSON,
Chief of Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Baton Rouge, La., October 11, 1864.

GENERAL: In obedience to orders I marched out on the Greenville Springs road at 6 p. m. 5th instant, with 1,000 cavalry and three pieces of artillery. The command was formed as follows: Col. John G. Fonda, One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Mounted Infantry, commanded the available force of the Eleventh New York and Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry; Lieut. Col. B. F. Marsh, jr., Second Illinois Cavalry, his regiment; Maj. B. Montgomery, Sixth Missouri Cavalry, a detachment of that regiment; Maj. N. F. Craigue, Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry, a picked force of 100 men taken from the whole command, and uniformed to deceive the enemy; Second Lieut. E. L. Hackett, First Wisconsin Battery, one gun of his battery and two mountain howitzers detached from Sixth Missouri Cavalry. Marching rapidly, with only the rests absolutely needed, my main force was at the Cheney place, on the west side of the Amite River, five miles beyond Williams' Bridge, thirty-six miles from Baton Rouge, and ten miles from Clinton, La., by daybreak.

Lieutenant-Colonel Marsh, placed in command of his regiment and Major Craigue's scouts, pushed rapidly forward to Clinton, and entered that town without opposition at 7 a. m. The Eleventh New York Cavalry, Maj. S. P. Remington commanding, followed to a point two miles from Clinton to support Colonel Marsh. The scouts under Major Craigue had the advance in entering Clinton. The management there was so clever that only two or three of the enemy in the town escaped. Lieutenant-Colonel Pinkney, Eighth Louisiana Battalion [Artillery], formerly an officer in the U. S. Navy, and nineteen enlisted men of various commands, were captured. During daylight, 6th instant, the command rested. At 6 p. m. Major Montgomery, with 100 picked men, left camp, crossed the Amite River at Williams' Bridge, and reaching Greensburg, twenty miles distant, rested two hours, and then pushed on to Osyka, Miss., a station on the New Orleans and Jackson railroad, twenty miles farther, reaching there early in the morning. He did not deem it advisable to go farther, as there appeared to be nothing to gain without

reaching Summit, twenty miles beyond, and a force of the enemy, estimated at 1,200, and constantly increasing, was at that place. He returned to Greensburg, joining me there at night. He captured 10 prisoners, destroyed 4,000 pounds bacon, 12 barrels whisky, 100 dozen boots and shoes, and a large quantity of corn and meal. He also captured the telegraph operator and important dispatches. The movement was a complete surprise. In the morning of the 7th, instructing Lieutenant-Colonel Marsh to withdraw from Clinton and follow me with his command, I marched with the force in camp at Cheney's, which the Eleventh New York had joined from near Clinton, across Williams' Bridge to Greensburg. Colonel Marsh halted seven miles out.

From Greensburg I sent out various scouting parties. Colonel Fonda with 100 men dashed into Camp Moore, ten miles distant, from which the conscripts were fleeing, but captured only 2 men, darkness and dense woods enabling the forty or fifty there to elude our force. Colonel Fonda, however, destroyed everything of value about the camp, captured a rebel garrison flag, and a large amount of clothing and gray cloth. A herd of cattle, estimated at 500 head, collected for rebel use, was found and the cattle dispersed. One party destroyed an extensive tannery, 2,000 sides of leather, many hides, and a large supply of other material. Lieutenant Cummins, acting assistant quartermaster, Second Brigade, reports the destruction thorough. A captain, 2 lieutenants, and a few enlisted men were taken in and near the town. The next day, 8th, detaching Major Craigue's scouts at Williams' Bridge, with instructions to scout below on the other side of the Amite and then return to camp by another road, I moved toward Baton Rouge, arriving, after an easy march, on the afternoon of the 9th. At Williams' Bridge I found Colonel Bassford, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, who had left Baton Rouge to re-enforce me with 200 men. The total of prisoners captured during the expedition was 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and 47 enlisted men. Over 200 head of horses and mules were captured. Our loss was but 1 man missing. Two of the enemy are known to have been killed and 5 wounded. Major Craigue returned to camp Sunday night, 9th. He destroyed 200 sacks of salt of 10 pounds weight each. A citizen followed his party, firing into it from the bushes, and killed 1 man and wounded 1 lieutenant and 1 man of his command. The guerrilla could not be taken. The country through which we passed was generally a pine wood with sparse plantations. About every plantation raises a small cotton and considerable corn crop. The roads were not excellent, but may be termed good and sufficient for military purposes; they have not been repaired evidently for a long time; even after rains they can be used. The Comite River has good fords, hard bottom, passable for all transportation, except soon after heavy rains. The Amite River has good bridges and is at places fordable; banks are usually high. The country sufficiently abounds in cattle and hogs for the subsistence of any moving force. In brief, it may be termed a poor country, but 5,000 cavalry could subsist themselves without grave difficulty in moving through it.

I send herewith the garrison flag of Camp Moore captured by the detachment under Colonel Fonda. My thanks are due Colonel Fonda, Lieutenant Colonel Marsh, and Majors Montgomery, Craigue, and Remington for efficiency and gallantry.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General.

Brig. Gen. J. W. DAVIDSON,
Chief of Cavalry, Military Division of West Mississippi.

ADDENDA.

OFFICE CHIEF OF CAVALRY, MIL. DIV. OF WEST MISS.,
New Orleans, October 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. L. LEE,
Commanding Cavalry Division, Baton Rouge:

GENERAL: Your report of the operations at Greensburg, Osyka, and Camp Moore, has been received, as also the rebel garrison flag captured at the latter place. I am directed by General Canby, commanding this military division, to thank you and the brave officers and soldiers under your command, in his name, for the handsome manner in which your movement was executed, and the successful results obtained. This enterprise, contemporaneous with those from Vicksburg and Bayou Sara, destroyed many supplies destined for the rebel troops ordered to cross the Mississippi, and seriously injured their movement.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

J. W. DAVIDSON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Cavalry.

OCTOBER 9, 1864.—Scout in Saint Francois County, Mo., with skirmishes.

Report of Brig. Gen. Madison Miller, Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD SUB-DISTRICT,
In Field, October 9, 1864—9.50 a. m.

COLONEL: A scout under Major Montgomery returned last evening to De Soto from a scout in Saint Francois County, broke up a rebel camp of 300 under the guerrilla chiefs Dick Berryman and Sam ——, and killing 21, capturing 1. Can you send me a map of my district? I want one very much.

MADISON MILLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Col. J. V. DU BOIS,
Chief of Staff.

OCTOBER 10, 1864.—Skirmish near Valley Station, Colo. Ter.

Report of Col. John M. Chivington, First Colorado Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF COLORADO,
Denver, October 10, 1864.

Captain Nichols, Third Colorado Volunteer Cavalry, surprised and killed 10 Indians, Cheyennes; captured 11 ponies and 1 mule this morning near Valley Station. We will clean them out of country between Platte and Arkansas directly.

J. M. CHIVINGTON,
Colonel, Commanding District.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Department of Kansas, Fort Leavenworth.

OCTOBER 10–12, 1864.—Scout in Pemiscot County, Mo.

Report of Capt. James W. Edwards, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

NEW MADRID, MO., *October 12, 1864.*

COLONEL: I sent a scout of forty men under Captain Vincent and Lieutenant Davis down in Pemiscot County Monday morning. They returned this evening, having scouted all over the county. They ran onto Bulge Powell and six men about four miles below Caruthersville, killed 2 of them and wounded Bulge, but he made his escape. The others were last heard of leading Bulge's horse. He is certainly wounded, and perhaps killed, as he was seen to reel and was dismounted, but as only the advance got a chance at them he escaped. Bulge shot George R. Ross through the leg below the knee, but it is not serious. They captured 4 horses and 1 mule belonging to Bulge, also his company roll-book containing fifty-five names. Lieutenant Davis says he had three good shots at him and is sure he hit him. They could hear of no other force in that part of the country. Another scout sent up the river under Orderly Sergeant Keesecker have just returned. They captured 5 barrels of salt at the foot of Wolf Island, buried in the sand, and was supposed to be there for the purpose of being smuggled into Kentucky. This time they did not find anybody that deserved killing, and found the country clear of guerrillas for the first time.

J. W. EDWARDS,
Captain, Commanding.

Colonel HILLER,
Commanding Sub-District, Cape Girardeau.

OCTOBER 11, 1864.—Attack on the steamer Resolute, on the White River, near Clarendon, Ark.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

OCTOBER 12, 1864—12.30 p. m.

CAPTAIN: The steamer Resolute, towing two barges, was fired into from east bank of White River, twelve miles above Clarendon, at 8 o'clock last night. Four men wounded; 1 mortally.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER, *Little Rock.*

OCTOBER 13–20, 1864.—Operations against Indians near Fort Belknap, Tex., with skirmish (13th) on Elm Creek, Tex.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. James Bourland, Border Regiment Texas Cavalry.
No. 2.—Lieut. N. Carson, Border Regiment Texas Cavalry.

No. 1.

Reports of Col. James Bourland, Border Regiment Texas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS BORDER REGIMENT,
Gainesville, Tex., October 20, 1864.

COLONEL: Inclosed please find a letter from Lieutenant Carson, reporting the late Indian raid on the Brazos, sixteen miles above Fort

Belknap. I learn from one of the men who was in the fight that the Indians struck the settlement six miles below their camps and killed several families. The Indians attacked five men in a house, but left when they heard the firing of the guns of Lieutenant Carson's men, who were then attacking the main body. He also states they discovered a white man in their front. The Indians left in a northwest direction. The courier states that about 200 or 300 men followed their trail, though the Indians were one day ahead of the foremost party and I am fearful they are too far behind to overtake them as the Indians are well mounted. They will no doubt strike at some other point.

I am, colonel, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES BOURLAND,
Colonel, Commanding Border Regiment.

Col. GEORGE H. SWEET,
Commanding North Sub-District, Bonham, Tex.

HEADQUARTERS BORDER REGIMENT,
Gainesville, Tex., October 20, 1864.

COLONEL: Since I wrote you there has been no further news from Fort Belknap in regard to the Indian invasion on that portion of our frontier. Lieutenant Brown having gotten his information from a citizen in relation to the number and depredations being committed by the Indians, I am disposed to believe he has been wrongfully informed, or I would have gotten other news before this. If anything should turn up indicative of a heavy raid, I will notify you immediately.

I am, with respect, your most obedient servant,

JAS. BOURLAND,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Col. G. H. SWEET,
Commanding North Sub-District, Bonham, Tex.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. N. Carson, Border Regiment Texas Cavalry.

FORT BELKNAP, *October 16, 1864.*

COLONEL: The Indians came into the settlements on Elm on the 13th. I was camped thirteen miles west of Belknap. Fields and J. Jones charged two Indians and cut them off from their horses, and judging from their maneuvers there were more Indians near. J. Jones came two miles to camp to get assistance. I took fourteen men and started in pursuit, leaving six men in camp. When I reached a high point I discovered the two, and ran them some one mile and a half into Elm Flats, where I discovered a large body of some 300, formed in a semicircle and most concealed within fifty yards of me.

While I was forming my men in line the Indians were advancing and firing on me. I ordered my men to fall back some 100 yards to gain a better position, in slow order, to save the men that were on weak horses, fighting them from one position to another until 5 of my brave men were killed. I received two flesh wounds. We killed some 7 or 8 Indians from the saddles and sign, and seeing a number fall. The retreat was continued some one-quarter of a mile to McCoy's house, where two women were taken behind the men, and I gathered my men

and horses that were at camp and crossed over to Fort Murray, one mile and a half. The Indians followed in hot pursuit, came up to McCoy's house, destroyed and carried off everything that was in it, then advanced on the camp, which was half a mile from the house. They took all the tents, blankets, and clothing that were left in camp, breaking up and destroying all the vessels belonging to the company, the boys saving but little of their clothing, and the most of them are now entirely destitute, having nothing left them, except what is on their backs. The names of the men killed are: J. Jones, Private Henry Snodgrass, Robert Neathrey, J. G. Walker, and Erastus Blue. These men fell fighting bravely, disputing, inch by inch, until shot from their horses, and yielded only with their lives. Samuel Brison's [horse] was shot from under him and lost. Henry McGuire's horse was wounded. J. Wallis', George Wimberley's, and my horse were slightly wounded. J. Buckingham was thrown from his horse, but made his escape to Fort Murray. Fields was shot through his pantaloons with arrow across the thigh, grazing the skin. My men were cool, and acted with unexampled bravery. As far as I have been able to gain information, there has been 11 citizens killed, 7 women and children carried off, eleven houses robbed. It is estimated that there were 350 or 400 on the raid. Mr. Pealer, a citizen of Fort Murray, got on the top of his house with his spy-glass, counted 250 passing over the flats and by our camp, while another party passed north of the fort with a herd of horses. The Indians captured 2 of my mules. They were some one-half mile from camp and had no time to get them.

Yours, respectfully,

N. CARSON,
Second Lieut., Commanding Company D, Border Regiment.

Colonel BOURLAND.

OCTOBER 13–21, 1864.—Scout in the Sacramento Mountains, N. Mex.

*Report of Capt. Francis McCabe, First New Mexico Cavalry.**

CAMP NEAR TULAROSA, N. MEX.,
October 21, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that I left this camp on the 13th instant on a scout in the Sacramento Mountains. My command consisted of detachments of Company B, Fifth Regular Infantry; Company A, First New Mexico Cavalry, and Company L, First New Mexico Cavalry, seventy-four men in all, twenty-one of the latter being mounted. Asst. Surg. L. W. Hayes, Fifth Infantry California Volunteers, accompanied the command, and First Lieut. Franklin Cook, Fifth U. S. Infantry, being unwell, remained at this camp. Having only received ten days' rations from Fort Stanton instead of a month's supply, which I required, I was unable to visit the Guadalupe Mountains as I had intended, but I determined to enter the Sacramento Mountains again and examine the country in the vicinity of the different cañons or passes leading therefrom. Of the cañons by which these mountains are accessible from the desert I chose the Señora de la Luz, because its ascent is less steep and difficult than the others, and on account of the fine pasture on the banks of the stream flowing

* See also reference to this scout, p. 210.

through it, and which bears the same name. Indeed, my horses and pack animals, being much worn by the hardships of a campaign of seventy days, could not endure the fatigue of climbing the almost inaccessible passes of Cañons Perro and Alamo, and if they did, they would be unfit to travel after reaching the top of the mountain. After two days' steady marching I reached the summit, and passing on encamped a few miles in the interior at a fine stream of water flowing through a beautiful glen and surrounded on all sides by sloping hills covered with magnificent trees. I left camp next day, pursuing one of the paths or trails by which the Apaches traversed these mountains in past years, and passing through a country similar to that described in my last report. No Indian sign was discovered, and on the fifth day snow commenced falling, which continued without intermission until the morning of the 7th, when it assumed the character of a severe storm. A very hard frost set in at the same time and the snow completely obliterated the old trails. One of my men had both feet frozen, but by timely attention and snow friction he escaped the consequences usually resulting from such a case. The same day I prepared to descend the mountain in a direction north of Alamo Cañon, and succeeded with great difficulty in reaching a plateau several hundred feet below where I encamped, enjoying the pleasing contrast of an open and sunny sky. Leaving this encampment I marched still downward and encamped near the opening of Cañon Luz on the 20th, and I reached this camp on the 21st. During the continuance of the scout I daily detached a party of dismounted cavalry after the march was over, with instructions to examine the country for several miles around, so that I am safe in my conclusion that the Apaches have left the Sacramento Mountains and fled for shelter and concealment to the dark and intricate cañons of the Guadalupe Range, where they will probably remain until necessity compels them to attempt another raid. I think their next irruption will be through one of the passes fronting the Fort Stanton and Franklin road, and in such an event a full company of cavalry stationed at this place and watching their movements would be able to mount promptly and cut them off before they could be able to re-enter the mountains. In my judgment they can be caught and punished in this manner more effectually than in any other. During my marches through the Sacramento Range I counted hundreds of lodges perched on its pleasant hills and grouped amongst its lovely valleys, the former occupants having been removed to the reservation at Bosque Redondo. Piles of whitened skulls and bones of slaughtered horses, sheep, and oxen, still mark the vicinity of these old encampments, forcibly recalling the predatory habits of this tribe, and suggestive of the wisdom of the policy which resulted in their removal from the land forever. On reaching this camp I for the first time received the orders of the general commanding department recalling me to my proper post for the present. I leave this place to-day en route for Fort Sumner, N. Mex.

During my operations against the Apaches since August 6 the conduct of the troops under my command has been deserving of the highest praise, and the hardships they cheerfully and patiently endured were of no ordinary character.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS McCABE,

Captain, First New Mexico Cavalry, Commanding.

Capt. BENJAMIN C. CUTLER,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Dept. of N. Mex., Santa Fé, N. Mex.

OCTOBER 14, 1864.—Attack on Danville, Mo.

Report of Mr. S. A. Thompson.

WARRENTON, MO., *October 27, 1864.*

I beg leave to report that on the 14th a band of bushwhackers came to Danville, Montgomery County, and burned the business part of the town. They killed 5 citizens and wounded 1. The post-office at Danville was burned and all pertaining thereto. They kill all men they get hold of who have been in the U. S. Army. I have been in the U. S. Army, and am now postmaster at Danville, and am trying to re-establish said post-office, but cannot do so without military protection, and as postmaster I respectfully but earnestly ask that a company of soldiers be sent there to Danville, so that I can return and attend to my official duties without being brutally murdered.

Respectfully, &c.,

S. A. THOMPSON,
Postmaster, Danville, Mo.

Maj. Gen. W. S. ROSECRANS,
Commanding Missouri.

References: General C. B. Fisk, Col. T. C. Fletcher, Col. D. P. Dyer.

OCTOBER 14, 1864.—Skirmish at the Boca Chica Pass, Tex.

Report of Col. Henry M. Day, Ninety-first Illinois Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Brazos Santiago, Tex., October 21, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of affairs in my command:

On the 14th instant the enemy presented themselves at my front about one mile from the fortifications at Boca Chica Pass, fifty in number. After sending them a few shots with one of my 20-pounders they fled in confusion. Four of their men were dismounted. The extent of damage done to them I am unable to state. With the above exception, all has been quiet. A Mexican officer who arrived here from Brownsville the 18th instant informed me that the Confederates as yet have received no re-enforcements or artillery; that their forces were diminishing by small squads deserting and returning to their homes. He represents them as being very much demoralized. The fortifications in charge of the engineer department are progressing as rapidly as could be expected. I have complied with directions received from your headquarters, dated September 30, as to rendering the engineer officer in charge of the works all the assistance in my power. A severe norther, which has prevailed for several days past, has retarded the progress of the works to some extent, and also is the reason of the delay of the steamer Patroon, she not having been able to lie alongside of the wharf to discharge her cargo. The water a portion of the time was two feet high at this post and vicinity. The sanitary condition and health of the troops under my command has improved since my last report. I am informed that General Ortega, of the Mexican Republic Army, is in the vicinity of Camargo with a large command. It is supposed his intention is to move on Matamoras.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. M. DAY,
Colonel, Commanding U. S. Forces.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

OCTOBER 16–17, 1864.—Expedition from Devall's Bluff toward Clarendon, Ark.

Report of Capt. Albert B. Kauffman, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

CAMP ELEVENTH CAVALRY, MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
Devall's Bluff, Ark., October 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of a scout east of Clarendon, Ark.:

In pursuance of instructions from headquarters Second Division, Seventh Army Corps, I left this post with fifty men of the Eleventh Cavalry Missouri Volunteers, and forty-eight men and two officers of the Twelfth Michigan Infantry on steamer Celeste at 1 a. m., on the 16th instant, running down to the mouth of Cache River, thence up Cache one mile and a half, where we landed on the east side of the river and disembarked, leaving twelve men of the infantry as guard for the boat. A little way above our landing I found leading from the river the trail of the guerrillas who fired on the boat on White River, the same trail I mentioned as having followed to the Cache in my previous scout west of the Cache. Without unnecessary delay we took up our line of march. Following the trail brought us to the military road above Clarendon near Squires' farm. Proceeding to Mr. Squires' I pressed him as guide and was by him informed that the guerrillas who fired on the boat belong to Captain Swan's company of Independent Rangers; that they hail principally from about Big Creek and Phillips County, and that eight of his men had been to his house on the 12th, and boasted they had fired on a boat. From Squires' we proceeded on the Helena road about six miles, thence south to Sutton's about four miles, thence toward Clarendon about five miles, thence north some three miles to Squires' farm, and from thence back to the boat about two miles. I distributed the orders of the commanding general holding the citizens responsible for the firing on boats in their neighborhood along the route. The information I could gather through the country, Swan has belonging to his command about 100 men composed principally of deserters from the rebel and Federal armies; are well armed and mostly mounted on Government stock stolen from Helena. At a house where one of his men fled from on our approach, we found two carbines (one a Sharps, the other a Union, both in good order), also a Government horse and saddle. Swan lives on Big Creek about four miles from the bay, which is his favorite haunt. In his late scouts in the neighborhood of Clarendon he had between fifty and sixty men. An intelligent negro told me he counted forty-eight men that passed their place moving east on the Helena road. Big Creek is thirty miles from Clarendon. I returned back to the boat the same day (the 16th) and encamped. The next morning, the 17th, I put the infantry on the boat and ordered the boat around to the second right-hand bend on White River above Clarendon. With the cavalry I forded the Cache River just above our camp and proceeded across to White River, distance about one mile and a half and awaited the arrival of the boat. Embarked with the cavalry and returned to this post. About twelve miles east of Clarendon picked up Private Joseph Brunell, Company G, Seventy-seventh Ohio Infantry, who reports himself as captured by Swan's men near the mouth of White River, also a citizen, J. H. Flemming, deck hand on steamer Tycoon, who reports himself with Brunell. From Mr. Squires I learn that there exists a road from Clarendon to Devall's Bluff on the east

side of White River, fording Cache River at the second right-hand bend, about five miles from the mouth, and that the Cache is fordable at several points along betwixt the mouth and the Bluff.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. KAUFFMAN,
Captain, Eleventh Cavalry Missouri Volunteers.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

OCTOBER 19, 1864.—Skirmish near Montevallo, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Marshall M. Ehle, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort McKean, Kans., October 20, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Scout under command of Captains Ury and Coffman just returned. The guerrillas are occupying the country in about Montevallo and Horse Creek, under the command of Thrailkill, from the north, with a force concentrated of about 150. There are nine families living on the little Clear Creek, each one having from 50 to 250 bushels of corn, where the rebels live. The guerrillas had a fight yesterday near Montevallo with the Stochler militia, in which one rebel was killed and several wounded; some 8 or 10 colts captured, all of which that are able to be used the militia have.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. M. EHLE,
Second Lieutenant, Commanding.

Capt. D. S. VITTUM,
Commanding Post.

OCTOBER 22, 1864.—Attack on Union transport, on the White River, near Saint Charles, Ark.

Report of Col. Orlando C. Risdon, Fifty-third U. S. Colored Troops.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Mouth of White River, Ark., October 24, 1864.

MAJOR: Through headquarters Colored Brigade General Dennis received a dispatch to-day as follows:

SAINT CHARLES, ARK., *October 23, 1864.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I arrived at this place with my command at 7 p. m. October 22. I was fired upon by the enemy from the south bank of the river. My loss is 17 wounded and 3 killed, including 1 officer mortally. The severely wounded I forward to you by steamer Marmora. Please send them forward to Vicksburg or see that they are properly cared for.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. C. RISDON,
Colonel Fifty-third U. S. Colored Infantry.

Col. HIRAM SCOFIELD,
Commanding Colored Brigade.

This is the regiment that left this post for Saint Charles on the morning of October 22. General Dennis directs me to say the wounded officer and men will be sent to Vicksburg on to-morrow morning on steamer Havana.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEW. DORLAN,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. S. C. FARRINGTON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Nineteenth Army Corps.

OCTOBER 22-24, 1864.—Expedition from Brashear City to Belle River, La.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

No. 2.—Capt. Luther T. Park, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

DISTRICT OF LA FOURCHE,
Thibodeaux, La., October 27, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Inclosed you will find three reports, being one from the commanding officer of each detached expedition sent out in pursuit of Whittaker's gang of guerrillas, who made the late raid on Bayou La Fourche. Captain Wyman's report is very meager in regard to the enemy, but my scout, Decker, whom I sent with that branch of the expedition, tells me that the party consisted of 120 men under the command of Captain King, the senior officer, and Captain Whittaker, the guerrilla; that they came from the camp of the Fourth Louisiana Cavalry on the Teche in twelve boats up to Grand River, down Grand River to Bay Natchez, where they landed, and from that place made their raid. They mounted themselves on stolen horses and mules, and returning, crossed their animals at Bay Natchez. They then divided, a party going up Grand River with the animals toward the park; the remaining part went up Grand River, down Little Bayou Pigeon, and up the Cross Bayou into Murphy's Lake, thus avoiding one gun-boat coming up. Had the gun-boat not gotten aground at the bar we should probably have cut off and captured some sixty of them. Mr. Brown, whom I ordered arrested, believing him, from various stories I have heard, to have assisted these raiders, complains that Captain Wyman robbed him of his watch and over $50 in gold and silver. I shall consequently detain him here for the present, until I can investigate the charge. I am satisfied that the best, if not the only certain way of preventing these raids will be to have a battalion of cavalry stationed at Plaquemine, and a telegraph line run from that place to Donaldsonville. I do not see then how they could escape us.

The next hard work I shall do will be to find out where they hide these boats and destroy them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding District.

Capt. FREDERIC SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Defenses of New Orleans.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Luther T. Park, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.

CAMP ELEVENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY,
Brashear City, La., October 25, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to orders received, I embarked on board of the gun-boat Nyanza, commanded by Acting Vol. Lieut. C. A. Boutelle, on the 22d of October, at 6 p. m., with thirty-five men of the Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry and fifteen men of the Ninety-third U. S. Infantry (colored), with three days' rations and eighty rounds of ammunition. At 6.30 p. m. we dropped out into the bay and cast anchor. Laid there until 5 a. m. of the 23d. We then started up Berwick Bay, from thence into Flat Lake, from Flat Lake into Bayou Long, from Bayou Long into Belle River, arriving at the head of Belle River at 10.20 a. m. of 23d instant. I laid there from that time until 10 a. m. of the 24th. I then moved up Bayou Go to Hell about three miles, discovering nothing. I turned around and came back to the head of Belle River. I stopped all communication with the country about me, picking up all citizens and negroes that came in sight of the boat, trying to gain some knowledge of the enemy. While lying at this point I heard that there had been a party in the vicinity of Pier Pau Ferry, and were about three miles east of said ferry; that they camped there on the night of the 21st instant, and that on the morning of the 23d they were near the mouth of Grand River; that they had made a raid on some plantations near La Fourche, carrying off 20 horses and 30 mules, and that they started down Pigeon Bayou in flat-boats. This party was under the command of Whitmore. While lying off the head of Belle River I came upon a squad of five men and one woman with a launch of about 3,500 pounds burden. They immediately ran their boat ashore and ran into the woods. I sent a squad of men in pursuit. Two of the men were captured. Their names were Dearborn and Le Geef. Dearborn has the reputation of having been engaged in the contraband trade; that he [has] been engaged in the trade for the last year; that he passed down Go to Hell Bayou on the 12th, or thereabouts, with the same boat that he now had with him; that he had two sacks of coffee, two barrels, and one large merchandise chest in the boat, and that he took the goods to Force Point on Teche Bayou. At 12 m. on the 24th instant I started for Brashear City, where I arrived at 6 p. m. of the same day. While on this expedition I destroyed 1 launch and 20 boats of different sizes. The prisoners I have turned over to Capt. H. J. Lewis, provost-marshal at this place.

LUTHER T. PARK,
Captain, Eleventh Regiment Wisconsin Mounted Infantry.

Capt. FREDERIC SPEED.

(Copy to Col. C. L. Harris, commanding Post Brashear.)

OCTOBER 25, 1864.—Attack on Clinton, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. Samuel H. Melcher, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

SEDALIA, MO., *October 27, 1864—12.20 p. m.*

CAPTAIN: I returned from a scout yesterday in Benton, Henry, and Johnson Counties. There were many parties of rebels on Muddy, Clear Fork, Fiefbaux, and Honey Creeks. Chased several parties and

exchanged shots, but could get no fight. There are several hundred southwest of Clinton. I think most in the region I scouted have gone there, as the last seen of them they were moving very fast that way. Tuesday 250 attacked Clinton. Seventy militia citizens and negroes defended the place successfully, taking 1 prisoner and severely wounding five others. None of the Union men hurt. I got together about 100 militia, who were in the brush. They now hold Clinton and Calhoun. They are entirely without orders and wish to be at work. If Price is going that way they could be concentrated at Fort Scott. I could raise about 1,000 pretty well armed to be there by Sunday, if that would be of any use. There are 2,500 militia now at Fort Scott. We have heard nothing directly from the army for three days and do not know what to do here.

Mrs. Phelps is just in from Springfield, and says there are about 1,000 effective cavalry there anxious to join their commands. Two thousand mounted men can be sent from Springfield to Fort Scott in forty-eight hours after the order is received.

S. H. MELCHER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

Capt. FRANK ENO, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

OCTOBER 26-27, 1864.—Scout from Vidalia to the York Plantation, La.

Report of Maj. George D. Reynolds, Sixth U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery.

HDQRS. THIRD BATT., SIXTH U. S. COLORED HEAVY ARTY.,
Vidalia, La., October 27, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that in obedience to Special Orders, No. 14, October 26, I took 100 men of my command, and, leaving this post at 9 p. m., marched to Choteau Plantation, five miles out, arriving there at 11.30 o'clock. I camped all night. At daylight this morning I sent the cavalry which accompanied me, six men, three miles farther on, to the York plantation, to collect information as to the proceedings of the rebels who were on that place on the 26th instant. The rebels, 100 strong, under Captain Lee, came on the York place at 12 o'clock, took all the stock, killed 1 refugee, wounded 3 negroes. They then went to the Sycamore place, where they wounded 1 negro, took several yoke of cattle, and a good deal of negro clothing, and destroyed a large quantity of food. They then left, taking all the stock, two wagons, and other plunder, going on the Trinity road to Cross Bayou. Having obeyed the instructions given me, I returned to this place at 9.30 a. m. this day.

GEO. D. REYNOLDS,
Major Sixth U. S. Colored Heavy Arty., Comdg. Third Batt.

Lieut. S. M. GUEST, *Post Adjutant, Vidalia.*

OCTOBER 29, 1864.—Skirmish near Warrenton, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing, jr., U. S. Army, commanding District of St. Louis.

SAINT LOUIS, *October 29, 1864.*

At dark guerrillas, reported 900 strong, threw off the track a freight train going north, five miles beyond Warrenton, and at last accounts were fighting with escort; the escort was but thirty men.

The train, I am quite certain, had no Government stores aboard. The messenger who brought the news to Warrenton says the passenger train from the north was then due, and the guerrillas allowed one of the train men to go a short distance up to flag that train to keep it from being destroyed, and expecting to rob it. I am confident Colonel Holmes, with 400 or 500 of his command, were on that train coming here. If so, the guerrillas will be roughly handled. Major Montgomery, with 200 of Sixth Missouri, was sent by me to Cap-au-gris, in Lincoln County, four days ago, and is to-night at Wentzville, where he has just telegraphed me he leaves at once for Warrenton. I am also sending up some colored troops I have had at Perruque bridge. Telegraph line down beyond Warrenton.

THOMAS EWING, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

Col. J. V. DU BOIS.

OCTOBER 29–NOVEMBER 8, 1864.—Expedition to Quincy, Mo., with skirmishes (November 1 and 2) near Quincy.

Report of Capt. Jacob Cassairt, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

LEBANON, MO., *November 15, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report:

In compliance with orders received from district headquarters, myself and Lieutenant Paxton, with thirty men of Company I, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, started on a scout to Quincy, Hickory County, Mo., and vicinity, on the 29th ultimo. We reached there on the 30th. On the morning of the 31st, being informed of a force of rebels at Warsaw, I immediately moved in that direction as far as Pomme de Terre bridge. I there ascertained that they had passed through, shaping their course southward. I then returned and camped near Quincy. On the morning of the 1st instant I was informed by a party of my men who had been out reconnoitering that the rebels were in the prairie some two miles distant from us. I immediately started after them with thirty-five men, being joined by five Union citizens of the neighborhood. I came upon their trail in the open woods. After a double-quick march of about ten miles I came up with them formed in line of battle ready to receive us. We judged from appearance that they were about 100 strong. They occupied open ground near the prairie. I then ordered a charge, which was executed in good order; not a man swerved from his duty. A few shots from us broke their line of battle and they fled in great confusion. We pursued them about four miles, killing 6 and wounding 3 others, who made their escape after we had passed them. Among the killed was one Captain Vansickle, of Texas. We also captured a negro boy and released Judges Owen and Jackman, a Mr. Brown, and two other Union men of Benton County, who were all prisoners in their hands. None of my men were hurt. I returned the same evening to the prairie and took up camp for the night.

On the morning of the 2d instant I again received information that the rebels, about 300 strong, were passing along the skirts of the woods. I immediately started in pursuit of them with a force of forty-five men, having been joined by five of my own men and ten Union citizens of the neighborhood, determined, if possible, to overtake them.

I soon struck their trail and received reliable information that they were 600 strong. We came in sight of them about 2 p. m., where the road makes a very short turn. We cut across, striking their line of march near the rear, cutting off about 100 men from the rear of their column. Our men raised the yell and fell in upon them, Lieutenant Paxton, in the advance, who, after emptying his revolvers, struck down two of them with his saber. We pushed them so rapidly that they had no time for rallying their broken column. Their colonel in attempting to rally them was killed. He proved to be Colonel Groomes, of Shelby's command. The enemy in their flight abandoned quite a number of led horses, which the citizens gathered up after the fight. All of the killed, amounting to twenty-five in number, fell into our hands, most of the wounded making their escape by crawling into the brush. Several of our men had their clothes pierced with balls, but none of them were wounded. Night closed farther pursuit. Our horses being very much fatigued, we returned to the prairie again and encamped for the night. Cold and hungry we did the best we could for the night.

On the next morning we received information of another large body of rebels coming in the same direction, evidently on the trail of the others. On examination I found that we were nearly out of ammunition. Bolivar being the nearest post, we set out about noon for that place. We reached there about 9 p. m. of the same day. On the morning following I dispatched to Springfield stating my condition. I remained at Bolivar until the morning of the 5th. Having received no re-enforcements I determined to return to Quincy. On reaching that vicinity it became evident that the last-mentioned force of rebels had probably changed their course. The force that we had fought on the 2d instant were scattered all over the country, evidently not knowing which way to run. Nine of them surrendered to Colonel Halbert, a leading man of Hickory County; one even stooped so low as to surrender to a free negro.

On the morning of the 6th I received orders to proceed to Lebanon as soon as possible, on account of which I was unable to learn the amount of horses, arms, &c., which had been gathered up by the citizens through the country. I arrived at this post on the 8th instant.

JACOB CASSAIRT,
Captain Company I, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

Maj. JOHN COSGROVE,
Commanding Post, Lebanon, Mo.

NOVEMBER 1, 1864.—Skirmish on the Big Piney, near Waynesville, Mo.

Report of Lieut. D. W. Cantrell, Thirty-fourth Enrolled Missouri Militia.

NOVEMBER 1, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with orders I performed the duty. Near the mouth of Big Piney, at old man Black's, I found four bushwhackers and attacked them and wounded 2 and took one prisoner. Started and the prisoner tried to escape, and the guard halted twice and then fired and killed him. I took 2 horses.

D. W. CANTRELL,
Second Lieut. Company G, 34th Enrolled Missouri Militia.

NOVEMBER 1, 1864.—Skirmish near Lebanon, Mo.

Report of Capt. D. A. W. Morehouse, Provisional Company Enrolled Missouri Militia.

LEBANON, [*November*] *2, 1864.*

GENERAL: On the evening 1st post train to Dallas County for forage, train was attacked by a band of rebels, part of a force 600 strong. Major Cosgrove left with 100 men at 3 o'clock this morning in the direction of Springfield. Heard from him by passenger stage. Rebels passed between where the two stages stopped last night. Major is in pursuit; rebel force 600 strong. Captain Turner, Company G, Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, has arrived here from Clinton. Reports camped last night at Lewisburg. Rebels camped night before 600 strong.

D. A. W. MOREHOUSE,
Capt. Provisional Co., Enrolled Missouri Militia, Comdg. Post.

General SANBORN.

NOVEMBER 1, 1864.—Affair at Greenton, Mo.

Report of Capt. William N. Norville, commanding Post.

POST LEXINGTON, MO.,
November 3, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that Maj. Samuel Henry, Asst. Surg. John P. Porter, and Lieut. Harles Ashley, regimental quartermaster, all of the Eighty-ninth Indiana Regiment Infantry, were taken prisoners on the 1st at Greenton, La Fayette County, Mo., by three guerrillas, rapidly taken to the bushes, where their bodies were found yesterday. They were all shot through the head. Their bodies were brought to this post by a citizen who relates as follows: While the Eighty-ninth Regiment was marching through Greenton these three officers rode up to a house and called for dinner. The lady told them that she had nothing cooked, but that if they could wait she would soon have something cooked. They consented to wait; their command marched on. They had gotten their dinner, left the house for their horses hitched at the gate, where, upon going into the house, they had also left their arms. Before they had reached their horses, three men in Federal uniform came dashing up and ordered them to surrender. The officers at first regarded it as a joke, but upon cocked revolvers being presented they surrendered almost within sight of the regiment and were taken to the woods. I have buried them to-day. When brought here they had neither overcoats nor vests on; Major Henry's saber hung in a tree near his body.

I am, sir, respectfully,

W. N. NORVILLE,
Captain, Commanding Post.

NOVEMBER 1-30, 1864.—Operations in Central Arkansas.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

Nov. 2- 3, 1864.—Expedition from Little Rock to Benton, Ark.
17-18, 1864.—Expedition from Little Rock to Fagan's Ford, Saline River.
26-Dec. 2, 1864.—Expedition from Lewisburg to Strahan's Landing, Ark.
28-Dec. 8, 1864.—Expedition from Brownsville to Fairview, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Itinerary of the Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Brig. Gen. Joseph R. West, U. S. Army, commanding.
No. 2.—Col. John F. Ritter, First Missouri Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade.
No. 3.—Maj. George S. Avery, Third Missouri Cavalry.
No. 4.—Itinerary of the Third Brigade, Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, commanding.
No. 5.—Maj. Joseph S. McCartney, Tenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 6.—Maj. George L. Childress, Eighth Missouri Cavalry.

No. 1.

*Itinerary of the Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Brig. Gen. Joseph R. West, U. S. Army, commanding.**

November 8.—Detachments of the Second, Third, and Fourth Brigades, comprising an aggregate of 3,000 men, were marched under the division commander to Norristown, a point on the Arkansas River about midway between Little Rock and Fort Smith, with the object of covering a supply train then en route to the latter point, and for the further purpose of intercepting the retreat of the rebel army under General Price from Missouri. The safety of the train was secured, and advices being received from General West on November 10 that Price had crossed the Arkansas above Fort Smith, the command returned by detachments to the several brigade camps.

November 21.—The First Brigade, stationed at Pine Bluff, Ark., Colonel Erskine commanding, with 200 men marched down the south side of the Arkansas River to meet and protect a fleet on the way up.

November 23.—Met the advance boat at Arkansas Post, and returned, having seen no force of the enemy. Captured 2 rebel officers and 8 men, who were home on furlough from Forrest's command. No other expeditions of importance have been made during the month.

No. 2.

Report of Col. John F. Ritter, First Missouri Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., CAV. DIV., SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, Ark., November 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that pursuant to orders I proceeded with 369 men and officers of this brigade and a detachment of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry of 110 men and officers, at 6 p. m. on the 2d instant, on the Jenkins' Ferry road, and reached Doctor Morton's place (about thirty-five miles) at about 7 a. m. next morning. No enemy at that place, and had not been in that vicinity since a week before.

* From monthly return.

A rebel commander, Colonel Logan, had been in that vicinity and stripped the country of forage, and then returned to Princeton. I proceeded by shortest route to Benton (fifteen miles), and found sufficient corn for one feed. Two prisoners were captured near this place. Their information is that there is a large force near Princeton and also a considerable command near Rockport. Returning, the command reached Little Rock at about 10 p. m. of the 3d instant. Total distance marched about seventy-four miles. Captured 2 prisoners and 3 horses and equipments.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

JNO. F. RITTER,
Colonel First Missouri Cavalry, Comdg. Brigade.

First Lieut. W. A. MARTIN,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cav. Div., Seventh Army Corps.

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, Ark., November 5, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to district headquarters for the information of the general commanding.

J. R. WEST,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF LITTLE ROCK,
November 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to headquarters of the department.

This scout was sent out in consequence of information received from the provost-marshal-general's scouts, which was to the effect that Logan with 700 or 800 men was at Doctor Morton's gathering corn. It turns out that the news was nearly a week old when reported to the commanding general, and I respectfully suggest that the scout who furnished it be severely punished for bringing false information, in order to prevent others from being the means of sending our cavalry on expeditions in future.

Respectfully submitted.

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,
Little Rock, Ark., November 7, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Lieutenant-Colonel Chandler, provost-marshal-general, for report with reference to indorsement of Brigadier-General Carr.

By order of Maj. Gen. F. Steele:

W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
Little Rock, Ark., November 7, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Capt. L. B. Nash, assistant provost-marshal-general, for a full report in case.

J. L. CHANDLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
Little Rock, Ark., November 8, 1864.

The information received at this office relative to a rebel force being at or in the vicinity of Doctor Morton's gathering corn, was given by the captains of two independent companies of scouts, and from a number of men belonging to those companies, and not from any regularly employed scout of this office. Knowing that for some weeks last past Logan's force had been marauding in and taking corn from that section, together with the information from the sources alluded to, I could not do less than report the same. There is no scout employed at this office to be punished, but about ten men belonging to independent companies (some of them living in the vicinity of Doctor Morton's) that are responsible and to blame for the report.

Very respectfully,

L. B. NASH,
Capt. and Asst. Prov. Mar. Gen., in charge of Secret Service.

[Sixth indorsement.]

OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
Little Rock, Ark., November 8, 1864.

Respectfully returned and attention called to the indorsement of Captain Nash.

J. L. CHANDLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Provost-Marshal-General.

No. 3.

Report of Maj. George S. Avery, Third Missouri Cavalry.

CAMP THIRD CAVALRY MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
Near Little Rock, Ark., November 18, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to Special Orders, No. —, headquarters District of Little Rock, Ark., November 4, 1864 (a copy of which I was permitted to read, but not retain), and instructions both written and verbal, I assumed command of a cavalry scout composed of the following named detachments, viz, Third U. S. Cavalry, 3 officers, 84 men; First Missouri Volunteer Cavalry, 3 officers, 200 men; First Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, 3 officers, 110 men; Third Missouri Volunteer Cavalry, 4 officers, 96 men; total, 13 officers, 490 men, and on the morning of November 17, 1864, proceeded en route for Fagan's Ford on the Saline River, two miles west of Benton, distance twenty-seven miles. On arriving at the ford I discovered that we could cross, but did not deem it prudent, as the river was rapidly rising and the probability was that it would be very high as it was still raining. We camped on the north bank of the river and sent to Benton for forage, where we found plenty for the command. No receipts were given for forage from the fact that we could find no person that had any. We discovered no enemy during the day, except two men who were apparently on picket one-half mile west of Benton, and about ten men who were on the south bank of the Saline River and fired on the advance on its arrival, doing no injury. We learned from a family

who were moving and had just crossed the river, that there were about 100 of the enemy not more than a mile from the ford, but were in readiness to move; supposed to be Crawford's command. Morning, November 18, 1864, found the river very much swollen; water at least ten feet deep in the channel, still rising and running very rapidly. Deeming it imprudent to attempt a crossing under such circumstances we immediately countermarched. On arriving at the Twelve-Mile House, we found the stream at least six feet deep in the channel (swimming), current not swift. We readily effected a crossing without loss or injury, except that one man of the First Iowa Cavalry lost his carbine in consequence of his horse falling in the stream. Arrived at Little Rock at 4 p. m. We conversed with all the citizens that we could find, and they all report that there are at Princeton two regiments of infantry (about 700 men) and Logan's cavalry. At Arkadelphia there are two brigades of infantry; could not learn their strength. Also report a few State troops at Rockport. It is rumored among them that 8,000 cavalry from Magruder's command have recently been sent to re-enforce Price, whom they report to be south of the Arkansas River, with his command totally cut to pieces.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. S. AVERY,
Major Third Missouri Cavalry, Commanding Expedition.

Lieutenant HAMILTON,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Brig., Cavalry Division.

No. 4.

*Itinerary of the Third Brigade, Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, commanding.**

November 4.—The effective force of the brigade present (1,464), under command of Colonel Geiger, in accordance with instructions from district headquarters, left camp at this place [Brownsville, Ark.] and marched via Springfield to Lewisburg, Ark., and from thence to Dardanelle, on the Arkansas River; distance, 130 miles. After scouting the country for twenty miles, capturing several straggling Confederate soldiers, returned via Lewisburg and Little Rock to Brownsville, Ark., having marched near 300 miles since leaving camp.

No. 5.

Report of Maj. Joseph S. McCartney, Tenth Illinois Cavalry.

HDQRS. TENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
Brownsville, Ark., December 9, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report of the scout under my command:

In obedience to written instructions from Brig. Gen. E. A. Carr, commanding District of Little Rock, and dated November 24, 1864, I took

* From monthly return.

twelve commissioned officers and 500 enlisted men of my command and started on the morning of the 28th instant on a scout through the country northwest of Searcy, between Little Red and White Rivers. I arrived at Cook's Mills, on the Bayou Des Arc, on the old Batesville road, at noon on the 29th. From that place I sent a scout to Searcy and West Point; on the 30th I crossed [Little] Red River at Hilcher's Ferry and moved with the command up [Little] Red River to the mouth of Big Creek. Learning that the country was full of returned soldiers (Confederate) I sent out four scouts that night to scout the country in all directions. On the morning of the 31st I moved the command to Richards' Mills and awaited the return of the scouts sent out the night previous. They all returned that evening, bringing in a few prisoners, but all claiming to be deserters. All of the scouts report forage very scarce, and no beef-cattle at all. I then moved up to Greenbrier Township, Independence County, and sent scouts up the country opposite Batesville, none of them hearing of any organized party of rebels. I found forage too scarce to remain in that vicinity, and moved out to Fairview, where I received dispatches from General E. A. Carr telling me to return if I could not subsist my command. I found I could not do so and returned. I brought in 14 Confederate soldiers, prisoners, including 2 lieutenants and 3 surgeons. I receipted for and brought in 34 head of beef-cattle, 17 mules, and 45 horses. I would further report that the citizens sent out as guides are, as a general thing, not to be depended on.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. McCARTNEY,
Major Tenth Illinois Cavalry, Commanding Scout.

Col. W. F. GEIGER,
Commanding Third Brigade, Cavalry Division.

No. 6.

Report of Maj. George L. Childress, Eighth Missouri Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Strahan's Landing, Ark., December 2, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in compliance to orders, I moved on the 21st of November, 1864, with 500 men of Third Brigade from Brownsville to Lewisburg, to report for temporary duty to Colonel Ryan, commanding post, Lewisburg, Ark. I arrived at Lewisburg and reported on the 24th. Was ordered on the 26th to scour country about Dover and on Big Piney, which I did in two days effectually, finding no enemy of consequence, nothing but a few guerrillas. On 28th November, while on march back to Lewisburg, received order from Colonel Ryan to march to and guard the stores on board wrecked steamer Doane. Arrived at the wreck at this point on the 28th, found two steam-boats, Chippewa and Hine, also here in good condition; water so low they could not proceed. Three boats have infantry guard of 108 men, which, with my original force, makes a force of 680 men. Our fleet has just been increased by steamer Alamo. She was attacked at Dardanelle by some 250 men, said to be Colonel Newton's, Cooper's brigade; no harm done. I escorted her up by crossing at this point

100 cavalry and 75 infantry to the opposite bank. The enemy did not show himself to escort. Scouts report enemy to have gone toward Danville. Relative to stage of water, the river men state that the prospect for a rise is bad. We have plenty of forage and rations, but no clothing or protection from weather. I would very urgently, with all due respect, ask to have the cavalry relieved.

GEO. L. CHILDRESS,
Major Eighth Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, Comdg.

Lieutenant MARTIN,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cav. Div., Seventh Army Corps.

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, December 8, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to district headquarters.

If this command is not likely to be recalled soon, permission is respectfully asked to have provision made for their increased comfort.

J. R. WEST,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF LITTLE ROCK,
December 7 [9], 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to department headquarters for instructions.

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,
Little Rock, Ark., December 9, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Brigadier-General Carr.

These men should remain where they are to guard the boats. Such articles as may be necessary should be sent to make their stay comfortable.

By order of Maj. Gen. F. Steele:

JOHN F. LACEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF LITTLE ROCK,
Little Rock, Ark., December 10, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Brig. Gen. J. R. West, commanding Cavalry Division, for his information.

General West is authorized to take such action as he may deem proper in regard to sending articles of comfort to Major Childress' command.

By order of Brig. Gen. E. A. Carr:

S. E. GRAVES,
Captain, Twelfth Michigan Infantry, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

NOVEMBER 1-30, 1864.—Transfer of the First and Third Divisions, Sixteenth Army Corps, from Missouri to Tennessee.

*Itinerary of the First Division, Brig. Gen. John McArthur, U. S. Army, commanding.**

November 3.—Brig. Gen. J. McArthur assumed command of the First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, in compliance with Special Orders, No. 219, Department and Army of the Tennessee, dated September 27, 1864. The division had been in pursuit of General Price, who had been driven from an invasion of Missouri. The troops had just arrived at Sedalia, Mo., on the date above given when the general assumed command.

November 4.—The march was resumed toward Saint Louis, Mo. The division arrived at Jefferson City, Mo., on the 6th, where we halted one day for the purpose of transferring the sick and disabled to the boats, to be transported to Saint Louis; also for the purpose of drawing supplies. During the march from Sedalia to Jefferson City the weather was very stormy and cold.

November 8.—At 12 m. the head of the column crossed the Osage River, the men wading it. As soon as the troops had crossed a halt was made, in order that those regiments might cast their votes whose States gave them the privilege of voting in the field. The division was delayed one day at Westphalia, in consequence of high water.

November 15.—We arrived at Saint Louis, meeting no other obstacles except the crossing of the Gasconade, across which we constructed a temporary bridge by means of small flat-boats and planks. At Saint Louis we were ordered into quarters at Benton Barracks, for the purpose of refitting for winter campaigning.

November 23.—We embarked on transports on the Mississippi River, and were ordered by Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith to Cairo, to coal and await orders.

November 25.—Arrived at Cairo in the evening. The steamer W. L. Ewing, carrying the headquarters of the brigade, was sunk on the way. No loss was sustained further than the wagons and harness stowed in the hold below. The R. Graham and Julia came to the assistance of the Ewing and relieved her of her crew and load. On the arrival of Major-General Smith we were ordered to the mouth of the Cumberland. On arriving at the Cumberland our fleet started in order up the river.

November 30.—We landed at Nashville and went into camp two miles west of the city, with information that General Hood was advancing on the city, driving a part of our forces before him.

*Itinerary of the First Brigade, First Division, Col. William L. McMillen, Ninety-fifth Ohio Infantry, commanding.**

November 1.—Returning from an expedition against General Price, the command left Warrensburg, Mo., en route to Jefferson City.

November 6.—Reached Jefferson City.

November 8.—Started on the march toward Saint Louis.

November 15.—Arrived at Saint Louis, and was stationed at Benton Barracks until the 23d, when it embarked on transports for Nashville.

November 30.—Reached Nashville.

* From monthly return.

*Itinerary of the Third Brigade, First Division, Col. Sylvester G. Hill, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry, commanding.**

November 1.—Marched at 7.30 a. m. from Chapel Hill, Mo., to Davis' Creek, twenty miles.

November 2.—Marched twenty-three miles to Roletta.

November 3.—Marched twenty-two miles to Sedalia.

November 4.—Marched twenty miles.

November 5.—Marched sixteen miles.

November 6.—Marched seventeen miles.

November 7.—Marched twelve miles to Jefferson City.

November 8.—Marched twenty-five miles to Westphalia; forded the Osage River.

November 9.—Detained by a snow-storm.

November 10.—Marched sixteen miles to Lima.

November 11.—Marched fifteen miles; crossed the Gasconade River on a temporary bridge.

November 12.—Marched twenty-four miles and encamped on Springfield road.

November 13.—Marched twenty-eight miles via Union.

November 14.—Marched twenty-five miles to Manchester.

November 15.—Marched twenty-two miles to Saint Louis and moved into Benton Barracks.

November 23.—Embarked on boat.

November 30.—Landed and disembarked at Nashville, Tenn.; moved into camp two miles west of the city, where we are awaiting the arrival of Hood's rebel army, now moving toward this place.

*Itinerary of the Third Division, Col. David Moore, Twenty-first Missouri Infantry, commanding.**

Division moved from Pleasant Hill, scouring the country around, en route for Saint Louis.

November 7.—Reached Fayette; remained in camp two days and took up line of march, passing through Columbia and Saint Charles.

November 18.—Reached Saint Louis. Here we remained in camp until the 24th, preparing for a field campaign; embarked on transports.

November 27.—Reached Cairo.

November 30.—Arrived at the city of Nashville late in the evening.

*Itinerary of the First Brigade, Third Division, Col. Thomas J. Kinney, One hundred and nineteenth Illinois Infantry, commanding.**

The brigade marched from Pleasant Hill, Mo., on October 31, by way of Lexington, Waverly, Glasgow, Fayette, Columbia, Danville, Warrenton, and Saint Charles, to Saint Louis, Mo.

November 18.—Arrived at Saint Louis, remaining until the 25th, when the brigade embarked on transports and moved via Cairo, Ill., to Nashville, Tenn., arriving about 1 a. m. on December 1, where the brigade now is.

*Itinerary of the Second Brigade, Third Division, Col. James I. Gilbert, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, commanding.**

November 1.—Moved from Snibar, Mo., at 6 a. m., sending out a scouting party upon either flank in advance. During the day three

* From monthly return.

small squads of guerrillas were discovered and a few shots exchanged. They were pursued and 1 horse and 2 mules captured. Encamped on Snibar, four miles from Wellington; seventeen miles.

November 2.—Marched at 6 a. m.; passed through Lexington; encamped on Tabo Creek; twenty-two miles.

November 3.—Marched through snow-storm to Waverly; fifteen miles.

November 4.—Marched on Glasgow road to Cow Creek; twenty-two miles.

November 5.—Marched to Glasgow and ferried the river in the night; twenty miles.

November 6.—Lay in camp.

November 7.—Marched at 8 a. m. to Fayette; twelve miles.

November 8 and 9.—Lay in camp.

November 10.—Marched at 8 a. m. on road toward Warrenton and encamped at Rocheport, on Missouri River; fourteen miles.

November 11.—Marched at 8 a. m. on Warrenton road to Columbia; fifteen miles.

November 12.—Marched at 8 a. m. on Warrenton road to Doctor Marteen's; eighteen miles.

November 13.—Marched at 8 a. m. on Warrenton road, passing through Williamsburg, and encamped two miles east of town; fourteen miles.

November 14.—Marched at 8 a. m., passing through Danville to High Hill, and encamped; sixteen miles.

November 15.—Marched at 8 a. m. to Warrenton and one mile beyond and encamped; sixteen miles.

November 16.—Marched at 8 a. m. on Saint Charles road and encamped at Barley's; nineteen miles.

November 17.—Marched at 8 a. m. to Saint Charles; crossed the Missouri River and encamped on south side; twenty miles.

November 18.—Marched to Saint Louis and encamped in Camp Gamble, where we lay until the 24th.

November 24.—Embarked on transports and moved to Cairo, Ill.; distance 200 miles.

November 28.—Reached Cairo; moved to Smithland and thence up the Cumberland River toward Nashville, which place we shall probably reach this evening [November 30].

*Itinerary of the Third Brigade, Third Division, Col. Edward H. Wolfe, Fifty-second Indiana Infantry, commanding.**

November 1.—Marching toward Lexington, Mo.

November 2.—Reached Lexington.

November 3.—Passed through Dover; reached Waverly.

November 5.—Reached Missouri River at Glasgow.

November 6.—Crossed and went into camp.

November 7.—Reached Fayette; remained encamped two days, two regiments going on scouting expedition in the meantime.

November 10.—Reached Rocheport.

November 11.—Reached Columbia.

November 15.—Reached Warrenton.

November 17.—Reached Saint Charles.

November 18.—Arrived at Saint Louis, Mo., where we remained encamped until the 24th, preparing for a field campaign.

November 24.—Embarked on steamers.

* From monthly return.

November 27.—Reached Cairo.
November 28.—Reached mouth of Cumberland River.
November 30.—Arrived at Nashville, Tenn.
Distance marched during the month, 265 miles.

*Itinerary of the Division commanded by Col. Jonathan B. Moore, Thirty-third Wisconsin Infantry, commanding.**

November 1.—At Warrensburg, Mo.
November 7.—Left Warrensburg by rail at 11 a. m. and arrived at Saint Louis on the 11th at 8 p. m.
November 12.—Went into Benton Barracks.
November 23.—Left Benton Barracks; command embarked on transports Isabella and Prairie Rose; fleet sailed same day.
November 30.—Arrived at Nashville, Tenn., and went into camp.

NOVEMBER 2, 1864.—Affair at Hazen's Farm, near Devall's Bluff, Ark.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS.
Devall's Bluff, Ark., November 3, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Captain Claflin, Company D, Twelfth Michigan, stationed seven miles out on the railroad, reports that 8 of his men, with their arms and accouterments, were captured yesterday about three miles from his camp by fourteen bushwhackers, under Capt. Patrick H. Wheat, taken about three miles, robbed, then paroled. Captain Claflin had sent out eleven men for bricks at the Hazen farm, but in returning the party separated. The eight were together when attacked, but immediately separated and ran. I have ordered them to be sent here in arrest. Captain Wheat stated that he had been near the line of sentinels here at the Bluff and knew where all were posted; that there was another squad of his men in the neighborhood and that McCray was at Searcy.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Little Rock.

NOVEMBER 5–6, 1864.—Operations in Mississippi County, Mo., with skirmishes at Charleston (5th) and near Sikeston (6th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Lieut. Col. Hiram M. Hiller, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 2.—Lieut. Elon G. Rathbun, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Hiram M. Hiller, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., *November 6, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have received no official dispatch concerning the affair at Charleston. The telegraph operator informs me that while Captain

* From monthly return.

Diehl was at breakfast yesterday morning some twenty guerrillas made a dash into town, and wounded Captain D. seriously, one man slightly, and captured 8 men. They then left without doing further damage. From what I can learn, most of Diehl's horsemen were on a scout. The eight prisoners were taken out of town some seven miles, robbed of everything of any value, and then sent back. They report the guerrilla force to be some sixty strong, under Colonel Birthright, a new man. I sent thirty men under Lieutenant Rathbun to Charleston at once. They arrived there at 3 p. m., and started with what force Diehl could furnish on the trail of the rebels last evening. I will advise you as soon as I hear from them.

H. M. HILLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

General EWING.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., *November 6, 1864.*

GENERAL: Lieutenant Rathbun just informed me by telegraph from Charleston that Captain Edwards overtook the rebels near Sikeston this morning, and killed 15 and captured 5 of them. Lieutenant Rathbun came upon a small squad of them, and killed 5 more, making a total of 20 killed and 5 captured out of the sixty who made the raid into Mississippi County yesterday, under command of Colonel Birthright. The balance are reported scattered and endeavoring to get out of the State.

H. M. HILLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

General EWING.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Elon G. Rathbun, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CHARLESTON, MO., *November 6, 1864.*

COLONEL: Captain Edwards overtook the rebels four miles from Sikeston and killed 15 and took 5 prisoners. I came up with a small squad of the rebels and killed 5. The rebels are scattered in small bands of five or six, and apparently trying to get out of the State. The Enrolled Missouri Militia acted splendidly.

E. G. RATHBUN,
First Lieutenant, Commanding Expedition.

Col. H. M. HILLER,
Commanding, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

NOVEMBER 5–9, 1864.—Expedition from Rolla to Licking, Texas County, Mo., with skirmish (9th) near Licking.

Report of Capt. Ephraim L. Webb, Forty-fourth Missouri Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Rolla, Mo., November 10, 1864.

SIR: Special Orders, No. 205, from these headquarters, dated November 5, 1864, ordering Capt. E. L. Webb, Company E, Forty-fourth Mis-

souri Infantry Volunteers, to proceed to Licking, Texas County, and enable the loyal citizens there to hold an election on the 8th instant, was complied with; election held. On the 9th started back to Rolla. About nine miles from Licking, close to the residence of a gentleman by the name of Reed, my company was attacked by about 400 guerrillas. I immediately placed my men in line of battle and fought them about an hour; repulsed them, killing 3 and wounding 7; killed several horses. Fought them over the ground of attack and marched my men to this place without the loss of a man. I lost 2 horses, which was all the loss I sustained. My men fought bravely and stood up to the work. I found the loyal citizens of Texas County in a destitute condition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. L. WEBB,
Captain Company E, Forty-fourth Missouri Infty. Vols.

Col. A. SIGEL,
Commanding Post, Rolla, Mo.

NOVEMBER 5–14, 1864.—Operations in Colorado Territory.

Report of Brig. Gen. P. Edward Connor, U. S. Army, commanding District of Utah.

DENVER, COLO. TER., *November 21, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that in pursuance of the determination, of which you were apprised by telegraph, I left Camp Douglas on the 5th instant and arrived here on the night of the 14th. The winter season has set in unusually early and with great severity on both sides of the Rocky Mountain range, and heavy storms and deep snows have prevailed during almost the entire current month. The roads in many places between Fort Bridger and this point are blocked and impassable for loaded trains, and destitute of forage. In view of these facts, and the additional one that [if] my cavalry could get through at all, the horses would be useless for active service after arrival in this vicinity, while the men would necessarily suffer much from the intense cold, I have deemed it prudent to halt at Fort Bridger, Wyo. Ter., the two companies of cavalry which left Camp Douglas on the 6th instant. Since my arrival here I find the Indian country intersected and cut up by several military districts, the commanders of which appear to be of opinion that they can spare no troops for a winter campaign against the Indians. Possessing no authority to move any of these troops, which, in my judgment, could be spared for such purpose, and it being impossible to transport hither my own men, I am unable to even attempt an expedition against the savages, who, I am credibly informed, are now in winter quarters on the Republican Fork and the Arkansas River. Any expedition against the Indians which would not probably result in their signal chastisement, would be productive of harm rather than good, and until suitable arrangements to that end shall have been made, I do not deem it wise or prudent either to undertake or advise a campaign against them. I hope to be able to transport my two companies of cavalry hither early in the spring, before the savages break their winter encampments, whence they will not depart until the grass on the plains will furnish forage for their ponies, and the early immigration tempt them to renewed plunder and outrage.

I beg leave, respectfully, to suggest that for the successful prosecution of this undertaking, it is highly important that authority be granted to call on district commanders for such additional troops as in my opinion can be safely spared from the several posts during the time necessary to accomplish the purpose named. Without such authority any expedition is likely to prove, if not abortive, at least ineffectual. With it I entertain the confident opinion that an effective blow can be struck in time to prevent the renewed outrages which well may be anticipated during the coming summer. In the meantime I deem this an appropriate occasion, respectfully, to offer a few suggestions relative to the protection of the great overland mail route, and set forth for the information of the department the opinions with which some experience and much thought and examination have impressed me. Premising that no permanent peace with the Indian tribes of the plains can reasonably be hoped for until they shall have been severely chastised for past offenses and made to feel the strong arm of the military power of the Government, I remark that it is equally apparent to the most casual observer that, unless some other and more effective measures be devised, the great overland mail will be liable, if not to frequent stoppage, at least to continued and oft-recurring depredations. The project of a great overland mail across the continent may now at least be considered no longer an experiment but an established fact, and its importance to the country at large need hardly be commented on, as it cannot indeed be overestimated, if its safety and permanence can be assured. The best and most practicable, if not the only possible, method of accomplishing this so much to be desired consummation would, in my opinion, be to place at each stage station between Virginia City, in Nevada, and Kiowa Station, on the Little Blue, in Nebraska Territory, a detachment of well mounted cavalry to accompany each mail coach, with a permanent company or regimental headquarters every 100 or 200 miles. These stations are located at an average distance of twelve miles, [and] the entire distance to be thus traversed is 1,650 miles, being from the western line of settlements in Nebraska to the eastern border of the cities of the Pacific slope. Thus stationed, a detachment of five well armed and mounted soldiers could with ease accompany each coach from station to station, the horses and men being relieved, provided for, stabled, &c., at each station. The service would be exceedingly light and easy of accomplishment and would afford the most efficient protection to the mails, treasure, and passengers, as well against white as against Indian desperadoes. For all ordinary cases this guard would be ample, but in the event of threatened difficulties along any part of the line a sufficient force could readily be concentrated at almost any given point. Long experience and careful investigation have convinced me that this, or some other nearly analogous plan, is the most economical and practicable, as well as effectual, method that can be devised for the perfect security of the overland mails. The necessary stables for horses and quarters for the men could be erected by the soldiers themselves at a very trifling cost to the Government. These stations between the points named number 130, requiring for the actual patrol proposed but 1,300 men. Two regiments of cavalry therefore would be amply sufficient to accomplish the entire work, affording absolute security to the mails and, incidentally, to the immigration, while in point of economy they would require a far less expenditure of money on the part of Government than is now entailed by the system of garrisoned posts at remote distances from each other. The importance of such security to the overland route in the opening up of a certain, speedy, and safe mode of shipment of

treasure from the western to the eastern borders of the continent must be as apparent to the department as it can be to me. In time of profound peace it would furnish the people a most wholesome check against exorbitant rates of freight and insurance by sea, but in case of war with any maritime power it would be not merely invaluable but essential to the entire country.

I have the honor to remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. EDW. CONNOR,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Comdg. Dist. of Utah.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

NOVEMBER 5–16, 1864.—Expedition from Springfield, Mo., to Fort Smith, Ark., with skirmishes (6th) near Cincinnati, Ark.

Report of Maj. James A. Melton, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *November 17, 1864.*

GENERAL: In pursuance of Special Orders, No. 2, dated headquarters Cavalry Division, Cassville, Mo., November 5, I left Cassville, Mo., on the 5th instant with 210 men of the Second Arkansas Cavalry, and was joined by Major Burch, of the Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, with 160 men. I camped on the night of the 5th instant in seven miles of Bentonville, Ark. The 6th I passed through Cincinnati on the inner line and camped six miles from that place. During the day I had several skirmishes with Maj. Buck Brown's men, who were disbanded and in small squads, killing 7 and wounding 1, taking 1 prisoner. 7th, marched forty-five miles and encamped near Fort Smith. 8th, arrived at Fort Smith, and for the scarcity of forage was compelled to recross the river and graze on the cane. 9th, marched to Dripping Springs and camped. 10th, came to Willhite's, twenty miles from Fayetteville, and found enough forage to feed once, being the first corn we found since the morning of the 6th. 11th, went to Fayetteville and camped. 12th, marched twenty miles and camped; had plenty of forage. From there I marched slow, feeding when forage could be obtained, and arrived at Springfield on the 16th. During the scout I had two horses wounded, but abandoned none on the march. In the vicinity of Bentonville as much as one battalion of cavalry might be subsisted for two months. My horses at this time are in very good condition.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. MELTON,
Major Second Arkansas Cavalry.

[General JOHN B. SANBORN.]

NOVEMBER 5–23, 1864.—Expedition from Lewisburg to Fort Smith, Ark., with skirmishes.

Report of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

LEWISBURG, *November 23, 1864—3.15 p. m.*

CAPTAIN: Captain Hamilton, who left here on the 5th instant with 200 men, has just returned from scout and escort to supply train to

Fort Smith. He had several skirmishes with the enemy, killing 11 and capturing 1 lieutenant and 14 men, principally of Cabell's command. On his return captured two trains belonging to citizens going South. The supply train expects to reach here to-morrow. Captain Hamilton was ordered to Dover and if necessary to proceed with the train as far as Clarksville. At that place Colonel Johnson, First Arkansas Infantry, with two regiments of infantry, met the train and assumed command, ordering Captain Hamilton with his command to proceed with the train to Fort Smith. The captain represented to Colonel Johnson the necessity for his return to this place, but without avail. The colonel insisted on his going through.

Respectfully,

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NOVEMBER 6–7, 1864.—Scout in Callaway County, Mo.

Report of Maj. Douglas Dale, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACH. FOURTH CAV. MO. STATE MILITIA,
Fulton, Mo., November 8, 1864.

GENERAL: On the night of the 5th instant Dorsey, with 200 men, camped ten miles southwest of this place. At 12 midnight he took up the line of march for some point on the Missouri River. I received information that he was in camp at the place above mentioned at noon of the 6th. I immediately went in pursuit with sixty-five of my command. I struck the trail late in the evening at a point ten miles west of south of this place, and found that he was bearing east. I followed the trail through by-roads and plantations until near midnight, when I lost his trail and came to a halt. I learned that there were two Union families within a mile of me. I sent a sergeant to one place for information of the whereabouts of the enemy. I also sent for and procured a Union man for a guide. I learned that the enemy were crossing the river two miles and a half below Cote Sans Dessein, at the farm of one Swan Ferguson. I delayed no time after receiving information, but moved at once. At about 1 o'clock I arrived at the farm of Ferguson. Not seeing any camp-fires of the enemy, I sent two men, dismounted, to reconnoiter for his camp. In about one hour his camp was found, or rather his point of crossing, with a few men and horses still remaining on this side. I dismounted all of my men, leaving ten men to guard the horses. I went into the brush with my men and moved cautiously, and surrounded the point at which the enemy were crossing the river, and arriving at their fires found that I was too late. The last load had crossed intervening the time that the camp was discovered and the report could reach me and I could move to the place of the crossing. It was pitch darkness, thick brush and heavy timber to pass through. My information up to this time had been that the enemy were crossing in skiffs. I remained on the ground till daylight, and ascertained that Dorsey had captured a steam-boat at dusk, but I did not learn the name of the steam-boat.

On my return to this place a detachment of one sergeant and five men of my command pursued two of Dorsey's men from the river a

distance of fifteen miles, following them by their tracks, overhauled them, killed 1, mortally wounded the other, and slightly wounded a third, who had fallen in company with the two. A short time before my men came upon them, captured their arms and equipments, consisting of blankets, saddle-bags, and a regular outfit for the brush confederacy. One pair of the saddle-bags had a new pair of Federal cavalry pants in them. Conscripts are coming in slowly. I think this country is quiet for the present, but I cannot tell how long it will remain so. It is with much difficulty that we can obtain information from citizens as to where an enemy is in this country.

General, I am, with much respect, your obedient servant,

D. DALE,

Major Fourth Cav., Missouri State Mil., Comdg. at Fulton, Mo.

[Brig. Gen. E. B. BROWN.]

NOVEMBER 6–16, 1864.—Affairs at Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.

Reports of Maj. Scott J. Anthony, First Colorado Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FORT LYON, COLO. TER.,
November 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I arrived at this post and assumed command November 2, in obedience to Special Orders, No. 4, headquarters District, October 17, 1864. Maj. E. W. Wynkoop, First Cavalry of Colorado, was in command of the post; 113 lodges of Arapahoe Indians, under their chiefs Little Raven, Left-hand, Nervah, Storms, and Knock-knee, and numbering in men, women, and children 652 persons, were encamped in a body about two miles from the post, and were daily visiting the post and receiving supplies from the commissary department, the supplies being issued by Lieut. C. M. Cossitt, acting commissary of subsistence, under orders from Maj. E. W. Wynkoop, commanding post. I immediately gave instructions to arrest all Indians coming within the post until I could learn something more about them. Went down and met their head chiefs half-way between the post and their camp, and demanded of them by what authority and for what purpose they were encamped here. They replied that they had always been on peaceable terms with the whites, had never desired any other than peace, and could not be induced to fight. That other tribes were at war, and therefore they had come into the vicinity of a post in order to show that they desired peace, and to be where the traveling public would not be frightened by them, or the Indians be harmed by travelers or soldiers on the road. I informed them that I could not permit any body of armed men to camp in the vicinity of the post, nor Indians to visit the post except as prisoners of war. They replied that they had but very few arms and but few horses, but were here to accept any terms that I proposed. I then told them that I should demand their arms and all stock they had in their possession which had ever belonged to white men.

They at once accepted these terms. I then proceeded with a company of cavalry to the vicinity of their camp, leaving my men secreted, and crossed to their camp; received their arms from them and sent out men to look through their herd for United States or citizens' stock, and to take all stock except Indian ponies. Found ten mules and four horses, which have been turned over to the acting assistant quarter-

master. Their arms are in very poor condition and but few, with little ammunition. Their horses far below the average grade of Indians' horses. In fact, these that are here could make but a feeble fight if they desired war. I have permitted them to remain encamped near the post unarmed as prisoners until your wishes can be heard in the matter. In the interval, if I can learn that any of their warriors have been engaged in any depredations that have been committed, will arrest them and place all such in close confinement. I am of the opinion that the warriors of the Arapahoes who have been engaged in war are all now on the Smoky Hill or with the Sioux Indians, and have all the serviceable arms and horses belonging to the tribe, while these here are too poor to fight, even though they desired war. Nine Cheyenne Indians sent in to-day wishing to see me. They state that 600 of that tribe are now thirty-five miles north of here coming toward the post, and 2,000 about seventy-five miles away waiting for better weather to enable them to come in. I shall not permit them to come in, even as prisoners, for the reason that if I do shall have to subsist them upon a prisoner's ration. I shall, however, demand their arms, all stolen stock, and the perpetrators of all depredations; am of the opinion that they will not accept this proposition, but that they will return to the Smoky Hill. They pretend that they want peace, and I think they do now, as they cannot fight during the winter, except where a small band of them can find an unprotected train or frontier settlement. I do not think it is policy to make peace with them now until all perpetrators of depredations are surrendered up, to be dealt with as we may propose. The force effective for the field at the post is only about 100 and one company (K, New Mexico Volunteers) sent here by order of General Carlton, commanding department of New Mexico; were sent with orders to remain sixty days, and then report back to Fort Union. Their sixty days will expire on the 10th November instant. Shall I keep them here for a longer period or permit them to return? The Kiowas and Comanches, who have all the stock stolen upon the Arkansas routes, are reported south of the Arkansas River and toward the Red River. The Cheyennes are between here and the Smoky Hill. Part of the Arapahoes are near this post, the remainder north of the Platte. With the bands divided in this way one thousand cavalry could now overtake them and punish some of them severely, I think; but with the force here it can only be made available to protect the post. I shall not permit the Cheyennes to camp here, but will permit the Arapahoes now here to remain in their present camp as prisoners until your action is had in the matter.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SCOTT J. ANTHONY,

Major First Cavalry of Colorado, Commanding Post.

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

District of Upper Arkansas, Fort Riley, Kans.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF UPPER ARKANSAS,

Fort Riley, November 22, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the general commanding, respectfully asking for instruction in regard to the Arapahoe Indians, kept and fed as prisoners at Fort Lyon.

Major Anthony has been instructed to carry out General Field Orders, No. 2, July 31, 1864, fully until further instructions from department

headquarters. I would also state that I have learned, unofficially, that on Saturday, the 12th instant, 2 white men were killed and 5 wagons destroyed near Fort Larned by a party of Indians numbering about thirty. Have written to commanding officer at Fort Larned in reference to it, and instructed him to report all cases of Indian depredations that may come to his knowledge.

B. S. HENNING,
Major Third Wisconsin Cavalry, Commanding District.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., November 16, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that since my last report on the 7th [6th] instant the Cheyenne Indians, numbering about 200, under their head chief, Black Kettle, have sent into the post a request to meet me for a council. I met them and had a talk. They profess friendship for the whites, and say they never desired war, and do not now. They were very desirous of visiting the post and coming in with their whole band. I would not permit this, but told them they might camp on Sound Creek, twenty-five miles northeast of the post, until the pleasure of the commanding officer of the district could be learned. They appear to want peace, and want some one authorized to make a permanent settlement of all troubles with them to meet them and agree upon terms. I told them that I was not authorized as yet to say that any permanent peace could be established, but that no war would be waged against them until your pleasure was heard. I am satisfied that all of the Arapahoes and Cheyennes who have visited this post desire peace, yet many of their men of these bands are now on the Smoky Hill and Platte, having in their possession a large amount of stolen stock. I have been trying to let the Indians that I have talked with think that I have no desire for trouble with them, but that I could not agree upon a permanent peace until I was authorized by you, thus keeping matters quiet for the present, and until troops enough are sent out to enforce any demand we may choose to make. It would be easy for us here to fight the few Indian warriors that have come into the post, but as soon as we assume a hostile attitude the travel upon the road will be cut off, and the settlements above and upon the different streams will be completely broken up, as we are not strong enough to follow them and fight them upon their own ground. Some of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians can be made useful to us. Some have already given us valuable information, and one Cheyenne (One Eye) has engaged to visit the Sioux camp and inform us of their movements and intentions. The Arapahoe Indians that I found here upon my arrival are perfectly harmless while here, but I do not consider it policy for them to remain here. Shall talk with them again, and I think will send them between this and the Sioux camp, where they can kill game to subsist upon. Neither of these tribes are satisfied with me for not permitting them to visit the post, and cannot understand why I will not make peace with them. My intention, however, is to let matters remain dormant until troops can be sent out to take the field against all the tribes. Will write more particulars by next mail.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SCOTT J. ANTHONY,
Major First Cavalry of Colorado, Commanding Post.

Lieut. A. HELLIWELL,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Upper Arkansas.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF UPPER ARKANSAS,
Fort Riley, Kans., December 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to Maj. C. S. Charlot, assistant adjutant-general, Department of Kansas, for the information of the general commanding, with a copy of letter of instructions from these headquarters to Major Anthony in regard to the Cheyennes mentioned herein.

It is presumed that Major Anthony has received these instructions by this time, and will act upon them.

B. S. HENNING,
Major Third Wisconsin Cavalry, Commanding District.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF UPPER ARKANSAS,
Fort Riley, November 5, 1864.

Maj. SCOTT J. ANTHONY,
Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.:

MAJOR:

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Field Orders, No. 2, dated July 31, is still in force, and the general expects that it will be carried out faithfully.

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Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. S. HENNING,
Major Third Wisconsin Cavalry, Commanding District.

NOVEMBER 9–15, 1864.—Scout from Devall's Bluff to Searcy and Clinton, Ark.

Report of Maj. Harris S. Greeno, Fourth Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
Cavalry Depot, Devall's Bluff, Ark., November 15, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In pursuance of instructions from headquarters Second Division, Seventh Army Corps, Devall's Bluff, Ark., November 8, 1864, I marched with the scout under my command, consisting of 130 men of the Fourth Arkansas Cavalry, on the morning of the 9th instant, in the direction of Batesville, Ark. I proceeded without interruption to near Hickory Plains the first day. On the morning of the 10th instant I marched with my command in the direction of Searcy, Ark., and went into camp five miles north of Searcy the same evening. During the day's march I captured 1 prisoner, who had deserted Price's army at Pineville, Mo. From him and from citizens who had conversed with several deserters from Price's command and returned home, I learned that Price with his main force had marched in the direction of Fort Smith, Ark., with a view to cross the Arkansas River either at Fort Smith or at a point west of that place. On the 11th instant I marched to Fairview, a place twenty miles south of Batesville. At this place I gained additional information in regard to the movements of Price's army, corroborating the statements of others, that Price intended to

cross the Arkansas River west of Fort Smith. I captured 3 more deserters from Price's army at Fairview, who claimed to belong to Coleman's regiment. From these men I learned that Lieutenant-Colonel Crabtree, commanding Coleman's regiment, was marching in the direction of Searcy, and that he intended to make Searcy his headquarters. I also learned from prisoners I had captured that Colonel McCray was marching down White River, and was going to Jacksonport with two regiments, Colonel Crandall's and Baber's, and the citizens informed me that small parties of from fifteen to fifty had been passing through on the Clinton and Jacksonport road for a week past; they all reported that they were ordered to Jacksonport for the purpose of collecting supplies for McCray's brigade. All the prisoners I obtained seemed to understand perfectly well that McCray would make headquarters at Jacksonport or Batesville. I went into camp a few miles north of Fairview the evening of the 11th instant, and sent a detachment of fifteen men under charge of a lieutenant in the direction of Clinton with orders to proceed as far as they could safely, and return to camp by daylight next morning, and obtain all the information possible in regard to the whereabouts of McCray, or any other force moving in the direction of Batesville or Jacksonport. This party proceeded some six or eight miles in the direction of Clinton, and by passing themselves off as Confederates succeeded in capturing several prisoners and obtaining considerable information in regard to the movements of the rebel forces that left Price's army and came in this direction.

From all the information I was able to obtain the condition of affairs in Northern Arkansas at the present time is as follows:

There has already returned to Batesville, Jacksonport, and Searcy three regiments, all under Colonel McCray. These regiments are Coleman's, Crandall's, and Baber's. Coleman's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Crabtree, when all together, numbers about 300 men; Crandall's and Baber's some 250 each, but of these two-thirds of the men have deserted, and say they will never go out again. They have thrown away their arms and are nearly all at their homes. They are all greatly demoralized and discouraged; those I saw all agree in the statement that Price's army was badly whipped at every point, and all greatly demoralized, and large numbers are deserting. From some I learned that either Shelby or Fagan intended to drop down in this part of the State with their commands. Although this seemed very uncertain, one thing appeared quite evident: If a scout of 400 or 500 cavalry could go up through that country at the present time or very soon, McCray could be taken in and most of his men picked up, with the proper exertion, but if they are allowed to remain undisturbed long enough, they may reorganize and give us considerable trouble during the coming winter. About Jacksonport there has been a very good crop of corn raised. On the morning of the 12th instant I moved back with my command in the direction of Searcy, intending to hunt up Crabtree and give him fight. I found Little Red River had raised considerable since I had crossed up and was still rising, and it was with much difficulty that I crossed my command, being compelled to swim some of my horses. I camped near Searcy and on the morning of the 13th instant I sent a detachment up the Searcy Valley to ascertain the whereabouts of the rebel forces. The detachment returned during the afternoon and reported that the regiment under Crabtree had scattered in every direction and would not give me a fight. We captured a Captain Bolton, of Coleman's regiment, and two of his men. I would have proceeded farther with my command had it not been for the fact

that my horses had no shoes on their hind feet when I left, and some of them no shoes at all, and they became very lame traveling on rocky roads, and if I had gone farther I would have been compelled to abandon many of the horses of my command; and, furthermore, my command was too small to operate to advantage. Consequently I deemed it best to return, which I did, by slow marching, arriving at Devall's Bluff the evening of the 15th instant, having been absent seven days and captured 1 captain and 9 men of the rebel army, and 15 head of horses and mules. I lost no men and but 1 horse on the trip.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. S. GREENO,
Major Fourth Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding Scout.

Capt. GEORGE MONROE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Dir., Seventh Army Corps.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF LITTLE ROCK,
November 19, 1864.

The within report is respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding the department.

This report indicates that there are three or more rebel regiments with 1,000 men or more in the vicinity of Jacksonport and scattered through the country. I recommend that I be authorized to send about 1,500 men of Geiger's brigade of cavalry, in two detachments, 500 to operate north and west of Searcy for ten days, and 1,000 to operate east of White River as follows: To remain in the vicinity of Augusta, Cotton Plant, and Jacksonport about two weeks, then to move leisurely toward Helena, scouring the country, and from Helena to go into the Indian Bay neighborhood, and after scouring that country thoroughly, to return.

Respectfully submitted.

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NOVEMBER 11–21, 1864.—Scout from Springfield, Mo., to Huntsville and Yellville, Ark., with skirmishes.

Report of Lieut. Col. Hugh Cameron, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *November 22, 1864.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that in obedience to Special Orders, No. 2, dated Headquarters Cavalry Brigade, in the field, Cassville, Mo., November 11, 1864, I left Cassville, Mo., November 11, 1864, about noon, with 160 men of the Second Arkansas Cavalry, and reached Berryville, Ark., on the 12th. Here my advance encountered Major Lauderdale; fired upon and wounded him, killing his horse. Lieutenant Gipson, commanding the advance, ordered Corpl. Robert J. Foster, Company A, Second Arkansas Cavalry, to take charge of said Major Lauderdale and convey him to the commanding officer. This order Corporal Foster did not execute; but leaving the prisoner at Mrs. Hollman's house without guard, permitted him to escape. Major Lauderdale was at Berryville for the purpose of collecting stragglers and hastening them forward to their respective commands.

On the morning of the 13th I sent forward my transportation in charge of sixty men, commanded by Captain Roberts, direct to Carleton, Ark., and moved in person with the remainder of my command up Osage Creek in pursuit of Lieutenant-Colonel Fullbright and Major Harrell, who I was informed were encamped on Dry Fork. These officers had left just in time to be out of my reach, having gone in the direction of Kingston and Huntsville to join the forces under Colonel Hunter and Major Brown. I took five of these stragglers prisoners, left 2 severely wounded, captured 6 horses and horse equipments and 2 mules.

On the 14th, at 3 a. m., I moved with the main body of my command in the direction of Jasper, Searcy County, Ark., sending a detachment of twenty-five men under command of Lieutenant Smith up Crooked Creek with orders to approach as near Yellville as possible to learn what he could of the presence, strength, and position of any rebel force, and report to me at Lebanon, Searcy County, on the 17th, if not prevented by superior force. He proceeded as far as Clipper's Mills. Finding the rebels too numerous to go farther, he returned, bringing with him six prisoners and the same number of horses and horse equipments. My advance fired upon Lieut. John Dearing, of Cissell's company, near Hudson's Mills, but did not succeed in taking him.

On the morning of the 15th I returned directly to Crooked Creek and marched up said creek as far as Clear Creek. Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols, commanding Jackman's regiment, was met by my scouts on the edge of Rolling Prairie, and closely pursued for two or three miles, but effected an escape. His camp is reported to be on Marshall Prairie. One prisoner was taken.

On the 16th at about 8 o'clock I moved on Yellville with 100 men. Encountered a small force of Schnable's regiment, killed 2, took 9 prisoners, and captured 7 horses and equipments. Lieutenant Hastings, Schnable's regiment, was among the killed. At 8 p. m. I moved in the direction of Talbot's Ferry, intending to cross White River before the rebels would have time to concentrate. Having completed about one-half of my intended night march, my rear was fired upon by a party of bushwhackers, which occasioned some delay. One U. S. horse was crippled. The injury done to the bushwhackers is unknown. I effected the crossing of the river by daylight of the morning of the 17th without loss or accident and continued the march as far as Colonel Cayces', capturing 7 prisoners, among them Major Mooney, of Schnable's regiment, and 5 horses and equipments.

On the 18th I marched to Little North Fork. Three prisoners escaped from the guard, Captain Bowlin, Company L, and Lieutenant Hankins, Company D, having charge of said prisoners and guard.

On the 19th I moved to Beaver Creek and on the 20th to Swan Creek, where 1 prisoner was permitted to escape, Captain Millsaps, Company E, and Lieutenant Smith, Company L, having charge of said prisoner.

On the 21st, at about 3 p. m., I reached Springfield with my entire command, having lost only two U. S. horses and having completed a march of about 400 miles in about ten days. I brought in 22 prisoners, 19 horses, 5 mules, 7 revolvers, 4 McClellan saddles, about $600 of Confederate scrip and $3.45 U. S. money; also several citizens' saddles, a large variety of arms, including several fine shotguns, with an assortment of blankets and clothing marked U. S. About ten bushels of salt was captured on the trip. From pretty reliable sources I learned that three brigades parted from Price's army at Pineville, Mo., and moved in the direction of Batesville, Ark.—Freeman's, Shel-

by's, and McCray's. These commands are scattered from Marshall Prairie to Batesville, the object being to consume the forage and abandon the country north of the Arkansas River. Colonel Hunter and Majors Brown and Harrell, with about 2,000 men, are supposed to be in and about Kingston and Huntsville. Lieutenant-Colonel Nichols, with about 600 of Jackman's regiment, on Marshall Prairie; Colonel Schnable, with about 500 of his own regiment, at and about Yellville, and General Rains, with the Missouri State Guard, on Cowan Barrens. Rains' strength not known. I found sufficient forage to subsist my animals, but it is not plentiful.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

HUGH CAMERON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Second Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding Scout.

Brigadier-General SANBORN,
Comdg. District of Southwest Missouri, Springfield, Mo.

NOVEMBER 12, 1864.—Skirmish near Centreville, Mo.

Report of Col. Albert Sigel, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, commanding District of Rolla.

ROLLA, *November 12, 1864—6 p. m.*

Lieutenant Storz, Company K, Fifth Missouri State Militia, had a fight with a gang of bushwhackers twelve miles northwest of Centreville. He killed 3 and wounded 3 and captured 11 horses and 2 rifles; he lost 1 horse and had 1 man wounded in the knee.

A. SIGEL,
Colonel, Commanding District.

Maj. FRANK S. BOND,
Aide-de-Camp.

NOVEMBER 13, 1864.—Skirmish with Indians at Ash Creek, near Fort Larned, Kans.

Report of Capt. Theodore Conkey, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Zarah, Kans., November 15, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to communicate for your information that on the night of the 13th instant, just after dark, an attack was made by a party of Indians, supposed to be about thirty in number, upon a train of five wagons loaded with corn for Fort Larned while in camp at Ash Creek, twelve miles this side of that post. One man belonging to the train is believed to be mortally wounded; the others, four in number, made their escape with the loss of their stock. This information was communicated to me by Captain Jacobs, in command of the post at Fort Larned, on the afternoon of the 14th, and I immediately dispatched a scouting party up Walnut Creek in the direction it was said the Indians had taken. This scout proceeded thirty miles or more up the creek, but saw no signs of Indians. The opinion prevails among men experienced in Indian character and habits that this party was composed

principally of Pawnees, from the fact that their plundering excursions are always made on foot, and as they were all dismounted and neglected to scalp the wounded man, who lay directly in their path, it would seem to confirm the opinion entertained that they were Pawnees and their object plunder.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. CONKEY,
Captain, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, Commanding Post.

Lieut. J. E. TAPPAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF UPPER ARKANSAS,
Fort Riley, Kans., November 26, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to department headquarters for the information of the general commanding.

The supposition of Captain Conkey in regard to Indians being Pawnees may not be correct, as since then Captain Booth and Lieutenant Helliwell were attacked in same vicinity by mounted Indians, as per report previously forwarded.

B. S. HENNING,
Major Third Wisconsin Cavalry, Commanding District.

NOVEMBER 13–16, 1864.—Scout in Pemiscot County, Mo., with skirmish.

Report of Capt. James W. Edwards, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST,
New Madrid, Mo., November 16, 1864.

COLONEL: Information having been received that a force of guerrillas, amounting to about 150, were rendezvousing near Cowskin, Pemiscot County, I concluded to ascertain the facts and took forty of the Second Cavalry and thirty of the Enrolled Missouri Militia and marched on Sunday morning last, scoured the whole country between here and that point, and could not find nor hear of any force outside of occasional stragglers. Run on two guerrilla officers, Captain Kelly, who succeeds Bulge Powell, and one of his lieutenants, named Walker. Killed the latter and probably wounded the captain. They had just crossed from the Tennessee shore and had stolen a couple of horses. Also captured 2 prisoners, one a member of Bill Forrest's command, who says he was deserting, which we have cause for believing. He says Forrest is pillaging on the borders of Tennessee, and occasionally crossing to this side for the same purpose. The Enrolled Missouri Militia under Captains Howard and Kock behaved handsomely, and I think will do to rely upon in any emergency. They were picked men. Found Captain Hays' company of citizens in arms and ready for fight. His force is small, and are somewhat uneasy, being so far from assistance.

J. W. EDWARDS,
Captain, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. H. M. HILLER,
Comdg. Second Sub-District, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

NOVEMBER 16–18, 1864.—Scout from Devall's Bluff to West Point, Ark., with skirmishes.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, Ark., November 18, 1864—10 a. m.

COLONEL: The scout of 150 infantry under Captain Dreher, Third Minnesota, and sixty cavalry under Captain Flesher, Ninth Kansas, which started for West Point on the Ella Wednesday morning, has returned. One hundred of the infantry landed below Negro Hill and marched to West Point in the night, where it captured Lieutenant Oliphant, a notorious fellow, and ten other rebels, and then returned, having marched thirty miles in the rain on heavy roads. The cavalry landed two miles up Little Red and scouted ten miles out between that river and the White, capturing 6 prisoners, 10 horses, also destroying some saddles. No accident happened to any of our men. McCray is reported near Jacksonport with about 500 men. I am anxious to send a scout up of infantry and cavalry there on a boat. Generals Carr and West are still here.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General.

Lieut. Col. W. D. GREEN,
Little Rock.

NOVEMBER 16–23, 1864.—Expedition from Brookfield to Brunswick, Keytesville, and Salisbury, Mo.

Report of Capt. Eli J. Crandall, Sixty-second Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. BATT., 62D REGT. ENROLLED MO. MILITIA,
Brookfield, Mo., November 26, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that in obedience to your orders I made a scout to the Missouri River, leaving Brookfield on Wednesday morning, November 16, arriving at Brunswick on the evening of the same day. I remained at Brunswick two days, November 17 and 18, and left on the morning of the 19th for Glasgow, via Keytesville. On the 17th, while in Brunswick, I was called upon by several ladies, who desired permits to move their furniture and other effects to Saint Louis by boat. I said to all of them that I knew of no reason why they should not be allowed to do so; that I was not authorized to interfere with them and should not. These ladies and their husbands, so far as I could learn, were all universally disloyal. On the night of the 17th I was visited by several persons who were known to be loyal and advised not to allow these goods to be moved, as they thought them contraband, but as I could not learn that any of these individuals had gone with Price in his late raid, although they were known to have remained at Brunswick, and did associate and mingle freely with rebel officers and men, and also with Captain Ryder and his men, and did remain there during the entire command of the rebel forces unmolested and then on the approach of Federal troops did flee to Saint Louis for protection, yet I did not feel I had authority to interfere, and did not. On the morn-

ing of the 18th I was informed that a citizen guard had been watching the warehouse in which the goods had been stored, and that men (citizens, not soldiers) had been prowling about the building all night in a threatening manner, for the purpose as was thought to damage or destroy these goods.

On the evening of the 18th an arrangement was made for Lieutenant Bryan, of Company E, Sixty-second Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, to guard the place with some of his men, which was done until the whole command was ordered into line, on account of firing being heard near the seminary. This occurred about 1 o'clock in the night; I had given orders before dark to have a provost guard patrol the town, and close all places of business before 10 o'clock and take to the guard-house all stragglers or soldiers who might be out after that time. This order was complied with, and I retired with Lieut. John S. Baker, of Company A, at 10 o'clock in the quarters occupied by his company. I was called by the lieutenant about 1 o'clock in the night, as shooting was reported as having been heard in the town. I immediately ordered all the men into line, and went in person to the warehouse where Lieutenant Bryan was guarding, thinking he was having trouble with those who had been prowling about in that locality the night previous. I learned there that the shooting had been in the vicinity of the seminary, and I found Lieutenant Bryan and men in readiness to march with his guard to the seminary where the balance of his company were quartered; I also ordered two companies to march to the vicinity of the seminary on double-quick, and placed one company in position for defense if needed. I went with the companies to the seminary, and ordered one company to scour the timber and brush in that locality. While executing this order the alarm of fire was given, and the report came to me that the stable in which our horses were quartered was on fire; I then ordered Company A to march to the vicinity of the fire, and went with them. I found on arriving in that portion of the town that the warehouse in which these goods had been stored to await the arrival of the down boat, which was momentarily expected, was on fire. I did, with my men, all in my power to save property, and but little damage was done outside of the warehouse. I was much annoyed by the occurrence of the fire, as I well knew that however innocent the soldiers might be, that we would get all the credit for it. I talked with some of the Union men who reside there and they expressed themselves satisfied that troops had not had anything to do with it, and that it was the work of outraged Union men, who had been mistreated by the owners of the property and their friends—the bushwhackers and rebel soldiers. None deprecated this more than myself, yet I could not help it. I find in Brunswick, and in fact in and throughout the country, that the poorer and most ignorant portion of the rebel community have gone into the bush as bushwhackers, and into Price's army, while the rich, influential ones (not gone into the rebel army), but who had no fears of bushwhackers, but did fear the Federal troops, have gone to Saint Louis, Iowa, and Illinois, for protection, where they will do all in their power to misrepresent (the only hope of this distracted country) the loyal soldiers, and they will also hold themselves in readiness to apologize for rebel soldiers and bushwhackers at all times, hoping that matters will get quieted again, so that they can return before the leaves of the forest again make their appearance, to assist to inaugurate the bushwhackers once more in their hellish work of devastation and slaughter, feeling that in one more season they will be able to blot out the last lingering hope of this State (the loyal people).

This is the class of people who are now doing more to destroy our bleeding country than all the rebels in the army of the so-called Southern Confederacy. They are the people who can remain at home when rebel soldiers and bushwhackers make their appearance, murdering and slaughtering the loyal people. This is the class who can remain to point out the loyal men, who were the victims of such men as the notorious Bill Anderson, and Ryder, and others of the same class. This is the class who were known to walk arm in arm with rebel officers and officers commanding companies of known bushwhackers in the public streets. This is also the class that flee when the Federal soldiers make their appearance, accompanied by the outraged and mistreated Union men who have been compelled to leave their homes, families, and property to save their own lives, and now to return to find their homes and property destroyed and devastated, and in some instances their families outraged, knowing as they do that those men must be infuriated and that they will retaliate, and that their only safety is in getting as near headquarters as they possibly can, where they can use their oily tongues and by misrepresentation try and save their nefarious and infernal necks from the halter, which they so justly merit. This is the class who do not fear rebel troops or bushwhackers, but they do fear the loyal soldiers that are now battling to maintain our Government, which, I am ashamed to say, still protects these traitorous villains.

I left Brunswick on Saturday with portions of my command, leaving one company at Brunswick to guard that post. I arrived at Keytesville the same evening and remained until Sunday morning, the 20th. I then started for Glasgow. Soon after leaving Keytesville I heard of the bushwhacker Jackson and his gang, and immediately changed my course toward Becklehamer's Mill, and there crossed Chariton River. I moved to the vicinity of Salisbury City and lost track of them. I then divided my command into three parties, sending Captain Roush commanding one, and Lieutenant Robbins the other, and the third I commanded myself. I ordered Captain Roush to scour the country from Salisbury City to Switzler's Mill, and Lieutenant Robbins to move north and west, and I made a scout to the middle fork of Chariton, giving that locality a thorough search. Captain Roush ran into and routed Jackson about three miles from Salisbury City, wounding 2 of his men, capturing 3 horses, and a fancy cap worn by Jackson, beautifully decorated with plumes and feathers. One of our men was seriously wounded, and we lost 1 horse and 1 gun. They are still running through the country, and can keep up their system of bushwhacking so long as the country is full of traitorous men and women, who keep them posted in every move made by our forces. This country is now full of property liable to confiscation, and there is a class of blood-sucking speculators now here, who are by all kinds of sly dodges trying to get that property out of the country. Some are doing it in order to defraud the Government; others in order to assist the rebels who have left it; and there is another class who do it to make themselves rich. Hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of this species of property, consisting principally of stock, could now be realized for the Government if attended to immediately. This stock is being driven off and shipped daily. A portion of my command is still at Brunswick and a portion at Keytesville and the balance here. I have ordered the whole here. I arrived at these headquarters from my scout on the evening of the 23d. I received from headquarters, St. Louis, last night a telegram in regard to one R. C. Haigler, who was killed last week in Chariton County. I have the honor to report that this was not done by any of

my command. I will get the whole particulars and report to headquarters as soon as possible. On receipt of telegram was the first intimation I had of his being shot.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. J. CRANDALL,
Captain, Commanding.

General CLINTON B. FISK,
Commanding District of Northern Missouri, Macon, Mo.

NOVEMBER 16–25, 1864.—Expedition from Cape Girardeau to Patterson, Wayne County, Mo., with skirmishes at Reeves' Mill (19th), and at Buckskull, Randolph County, Ark. (20th).

Report of Lieut. Col. George C. Thilenius, Fifty-sixth Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. FIFTY-SIXTH REGT., ENROLLED MO. MILITIA,
Cape Girardeau, November 26, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to orders received from you on the 16th instant, I have the honor to report to you as follows:

I left camp on the 16th instant at 10.30 a. m. with 166 men of the Fifty-sixth Regiment Enrolled Missouri State Militia and forty men of the Second Missouri State Militia [Cavalry], under command of Lieutenants Rathbun and Toney, to Jackson, where I was joined by thirty-four men of Capt. A. Tacke's company six months' volunteers, Enrolled Missouri Militia, making a total of 240 men, all mounted, with instructions to proceed to Patterson, Wayne County, and rout a rebel force reported to be there, open communications with Pilot Knob, and co-operate with forces sent from there. After leaving Jackson we marched a distance of twelve miles on the so-called old telegraph road, and camped at Kinder's farm, in Cape Girardeau County. The next morning, the 17th instant, we started at daybreak, passing through Dallas, Bollinger County, at 2.30 p. m., and struck camp at A. M. Sides' farm, half a mile on the other side of Castor River, in Wayne County, Mo., making a march of thirty miles that day. The weather for the last two days had been very unpleasant, it raining without intermission, and the roads in consequence very bad, retarded our progress considerably. On the 18th we arrived at Patterson, Wayne County, at 2 p. m. From Lieutenant Sutton, commanding post, I received information that a force of 120 men, under command of Captain McClanahan, from Pilot Knob, had passed through Patterson about three hours previous to join us near Greenville, and ascertaining further that a rebel force of about 200 men under Timothy Reves was encamped on Cherokee Bayou, Randolph County, Ark., we left that place immediately, taking the State road toward Doniphan, and camped that night at Edward Dee's farm, on Otter Creek, Wayne County, having marched a distance of thirty-two miles. Lieutenant Kelley, with a squad of the Third Missouri State Militia, who had been sent out by Captain McClanahan to Greenville, informed me that Captain McClanahan's command was in camp six miles ahead of us and awaiting our arrival. We met next morning, the 19th instant, and started without delay, crossing Black River and marching twenty-four miles that day over the many pine hills of Ripley County, and struck camp at William Arnold's farm, on Little Black River, in Ripley County. A small scout of Captain McClanahan's command killed a notorious bushwhacker, Ely

Garbert, at Reeves' Mill, about four miles distant from our camping-ground, and destroyed the mill which had been used as a place of resort by them and was furnishing supplies continually. We arrived at Doniphan, the county seat of Ripley, on Current River, at 10 a. m. on the 20th instant; took a rest of about fifteen minutes and then proceeded forward into Arkansas, crossing the line at about 12 noon.

Allow me, colonel, to say that this is perhaps the first instance the Enrolled Missouri Militia of this district going out of the State, not a single man refusing, but marching on cheerfully, and eagerly hoping to get a chance to shoot and kill some of the bushwhacking chivalry. Having arrived within six miles of Buckskull, a squad of about six guerrillas were observed to approach our advance of the Second Missouri State Militia, who fired instantly, killing 2 of them and capturing their horses and arms. The balance scattered into the brush and made their escape. On the body of one, named French, a pass was found showing that he belonged to Reves' gang. Having passed over this small encounter, a charge was ordered on Buckskull, led by Captain McClanahan, but no rebel force was found there. After a march of twenty-eight miles that day we went into camp at William Patterson's farm, at the head of Cherokee Bayou, Randolph County, Ark. Ascertaining that no rebel force could be found in the vicinity, and consulting with the officers in regard to further movements, it was considered and determined to return, our rations having also been consumed and no prospect of obtaining necessary supplies. Our command was, in consequence, divided next morning, the 21st, Captain McClanahan taking charge of the men brought with him from Pilot Knob, to which, by his request, the forty men from the Second Missouri State Militia from Cape Girardeau were added, with whom he was to return via Pocahontas and Powhatan to Pilot Knob. I started with the balance of my command the same morning, crossed the Little Black River, and marched through a portion of Cherokee Bayou, finding the roads almost impassable, more especially through the swamps. The previous two days had been very cold, and the water frozen with ice one inch thick, cutting the horses' legs so badly that I was compelled to abandon several of them. We camped that night on a deserted farm, and marched the next day to Poplar Bluff, Butler County, Mo., capturing on the march a rebel soldier of Cabell's brigade, who had been wounded at the battle of Pilot Knob and was on his way home; crossed Black River at Poplar Bluff and camped on the farm of the rebel Major Jennings. Having obtained some corn meal and salt at Poplar Bluff, we broke up camp on the morning of the 23d and marched toward Bloomfield, crossing Saint Francis River at the old Indian Ford, and camped at J. Harty's farm, eight miles distant from Bloomfield. The 24th we marched to Bloomfield, purchased a supply of corn meal, and from there marched to the farm of Fred. Ballinger, near Lakeville, to camp.

On the next day we arrived in camp at Cape Girardeau at 3 p. m., having marched and scouted through the country a distance of about 300 miles in ten days. In conclusion I must cheerfully acknowledge that great credit is due to officers, as well as men, for the faithful and cheerful execution of each order, as well as for their untiring perseverance of every hardship on the march.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I am, colonel, yours, respectfully,

G. C. THILENIUS,

Lieut. Col. 56th Regt. Enrolled Mo. Militia, Comdg. Scout.

Lieut. Col. H. M. HILLER,

Commanding Second Sub-District.

NOVEMBER 17–19, 1864.—Expedition from Brashear City to Bayou Portage, La., with skirmish (18th) at Lake Fausse Pointe, La.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

No. 2.—Maj. Jesse S. Miller, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

THIBODEAUX, *November 19, 1864.*
(Received 11 a. m.)

MAJOR: The party I sent out to destroy the guerrillas and raid boats had a glorious success. They landed yesterday morning under command of Major Miller 200 strong at Bayou Portage, at the head of Lake Fausse Pointe. They found Murphy's, Whittaker's, and King's companies watching the boats. They attacked them, whipped them, destroyed the boats, their baggage, and their barracks, and returned. They learned that Lieutenant Shafer, with part of the boats, was on a raiding expedition, and that Houma was their supposed destination. I have ordered the company of cavalry from Terre Bonne to proceed to Houma immediately, and will have another company sent off from this place immediately.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding District.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES OF NEW ORLEANS,
New Orleans, November 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General CAMERON,
Thibodeaux:

General Sherman congratulates you on the success of the boat expedition, and would be glad to have more specific information than is contained in your telegram of this a. m.

FREDERIC SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Jesse S. Miller, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry.

HDQRS. ELEVENTH INFANTRY, WISCONSIN VET. VOLS.,
Brashear City, La., November 19, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the expedition to Bayou Portage under my command:

I left Brashear City at 11 o'clock on the night of November 17 with 200 men—150 of the Eleventh Infantry Wisconsin Veteran Volunteers, and fifty of the Ninety-third U. S. Infantry (colored)—on board the gunboat Nijanza No. 41 and steam transport Cornie, arrived at the mouth of Bayou Portage at 6 a. m. November 18, and proceeded up the bayou a short distance. The Cornie, a few rods in advance, was fired upon

from an ambush by about sixty men, killing 1 man of the Ninety-third U. S. Infantry (colored). I immediately landed the force on the gunboat and attempted to get in rear of the force that fired on the Cornie, but they retreated up the bayou. I then deployed one company as skirmishers and advanced up the bayou, the Cornie keeping abreast of me as far up as she could go. I then had all the men on board landed except twenty-five colored men and a captain, leaving them as guards for the boat. I continued on up the bayou, my skirmish line keeping up a pretty sharp fire with the enemy. I sent one company of about thirty men around to the left for the purpose of getting into their rear, but they fell in with a company of cavalry which prevented this. After driving the enemy about two miles and a half we overhauled one of the large flats loaded with baggage and tied up on the opposite side of the bayou, and succeeded in getting it across, although under pretty severe fire from the opposite side. I ordered the baggage set on fire and the boat destroyed. I also captured 1 prisoner here, from whom I learned that the other flats were some half hour the start of us. I concluded that it would be useless to follow them farther, as they could row them as fast or faster than we could drive the force that was now opposing us. I therefore fell back to the boats and re-embarked, having been on shore four hours. The enemy followed us back and exchanged a few shots with the rear before my men were all on board. It is impossible for me to say how many of the enemy were killed or wounded, but I am quite positive that 2 were killed. The casualties on our side was 1 man killed and 1 slightly wounded. We destroyed 1 large flat loaded with baggage and several small boats, and barracks for about 300 men, with a considerable amount of camp and garrison equipage, and some cornmeal and sugar. It is impossible for me to say how strong the enemy were, but I should judge them to be not less than 200 or 250 men, and under command of Captains Murphy, King, and Whittaker.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. MILLER,
Major Eleventh Infantry, Wisconsin Veteran Volunteers.

Capt. B. B. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of La Fourche.

NOVEMBER 19–27, 1864.—Expedition from Terre Bonne to Bayou Grand Caillou, La., with affair (23d) at Bayou Grand Caillou.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.
No. 2.—Lieut. Eugene S. Thrall, Sixtieth Indiana Infantry.
No. 3.—Sergt. John Simms, Company E, Sixteenth Indiana Infantry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

DISTRICT OF LA FOURCHE,
Thibodeaux, La., November 30, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I am sorry to be obliged to report to you the capture of Captains Moore and Stevenson and Lieutenant Jordan, with 1 sergeant and 6 men of the Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, at the mouth of

Bayou Grand Caillou, on the night of the 23d instant. Captain Moore, as you are aware, had been for some time ferreting out the smuggling going on at the mouth of this bayou, assisted by a man whom I had employed by the name of Todd. They returned from an expedition of that kind and reported to me that their identity had been discovered and that they had failed and barely escaped with their lives. Indeed I do not believe they would have allowed them to escape had it not been for the shrewdness and ingenuity of Mr. Todd. They reported that there was one Whitfield there who they were satisfied was some kind of a Confederate agent. My impression from their report and other information was that he was a rebel recruiting officer picking up such persons as were frightened off by our enrollment. I inclose Captain Moore's report made to me, marked A, Mr. Todd's report, marked B,* for the general's information. While I was digesting in my mind what steps further to pursue with this troublesome section of the country I received information from Mr. Decker, a scout whom you will remember the general sent to me and who is invaluable here, that Lieutenant Shafer had left the rebel camp with a party in boats via Bayou Salle and it was believed that he intended to make a raid upon the merchants of Houma by way of Grand Caillou. I immediately dispatched the company of cavalry stationed at Terre Bonne to Houma and sent Captain Moore with his company from this place to follow. I ordered him when he had arrived at Houma to take command of both companies and make a reconnaissance down the bayou; to destroy the smuggling crafts and to arrest any rebel recruiting officers or agents found there. I inclose a copy of the order given him marked C.* After he had been gone a few days I heard by rumor that Captain Moore, his officers and men, had seized a quantity of Louisiana rum and were on a drunken spree, committing various depredations, and that one of his men had attempted to rape a mulatto girl and had shot and killed her for resisting. I immediately sent a messenger with an order to Captain Moore to return; a copy is inclosed marked D.† The messenger found the officers gone, but the senior sergeant opened the order and returned with the command. The sergeant reported that Captain Moore had taken all the officers with him, a sergeant and six men, in an open boat and had been absent from his command for four days, when he (the sergeant) started to return. His report is inclosed, marked E.

Yesterday evening I received from Lieutenant Thrall, commanding the guard at Houma, the inclosed report, marked F, which gives the final solution to this unfortunate affair. It appears that Captain Moore with the balance of his officers abandoned their command in a state of intoxication on the evening of the 23d and was led by Raymond Luke to the camp of a rebel officer and his recruiting party and fell an easy prey. How Captain Moore could destroy Raymond Luke's smuggling boat as he did and then take him the same night for a guide can only be explained by his intoxication. But it appears that he allowed Luke to cover him with his blandishments and protestations of friendship and lead him and his party into the very arms of this insignificant but vigilant party of rebels; and it further appears from letters written by Captain Moore to his company, which Luke brought back with him, that Luke made him believe that it was all right and the affair only accidental. I believe that this Luke knew that this Captain Jefferson, who must belong to either the Twenty-sixth or Twenty-eighth Louisiana, stationed at Alexandria, was there recruiting,

* Omitted, it being substantially the same as Moore's report.
† Not found.

and that it was a plan laid by Luke with Jefferson to get these officers drunk, decoy, and capture them. I have no further proof against this Luke than the circumstances of the case and his notorious character. But having seen him, analyzed, and read him, I would, if I were allowed to use my own judgment alone, send him to Fort Jefferson for the balance of the war without trial. I have the murderer Hilton in custody and he will be tried for murder.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding District.

Capt. FREDERIC SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Defenses of New Orleans.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. CO. D, SIXTEENTH INDIANA MOUNTED INFTY.,
Thibodeaux, La., November 10, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with Special Orders, No. 196, dated headquarters District of La Fourche, Thibodeaux, La., October 5, 1864, detaching me on special duty, acting on private instructions from headquarters District of La Fourche, I have the honor herewith to submit the following report:

Receiving my instructions to go to Bayou Grand Caillou to detect smugglers, having made the necessary preparations I started on the night of the 6th of October, traveling some twenty-five miles south of Houma. I found a man by the name of Hancock, who lives on Bayou Grand Caillou. I stopped at his house to get dinner and have my horse fed. I told him that I was a refugee and wanted to get out of the Yankee lines. I asked him if there was any way by which a man could get through and cross the bay. He told me that there was a boat going across every few days, and if I would wait a few days that I could get across. I told him that I was afraid that the Yankees would get me. He said there was no danger for they never came that far down the bayou, and if they did come he would hide me away. Finding that he was all right, I made myself known as George W. Waldon, of New Orleans, and was a traveling agent for the Southern Aid Society, and that I had on hand a large lot of clothing for the Confederate soldiers, and I wished to get them across by this route if there was any means by which I could do so. Hancock told me that Mr. Raymond Luke and Joseph Wasser had boats and were in the business, but I could not get to see them, as Luke was at Houma and Wasser was across the bay; but if I would wait until morning I would see Luke, as he was looking for him home. I remained there until next day and Mr. Luke did not return. His brother, Battice Luke, came across the bayou; he told me that he and his brother and some of the neighbors would give me all the assistance I wanted if I could get my goods to Houma. Battice Luke also told me that his brother, Raymond Luke, had taken goods across into the Confederacy and had made $2,000 off one boat load, and that he could afford to pay $400 or $500 for a permit to run his boat in Grand Caillou. He also said that his brother, Raymond Luke, had a permit from the rebel general commanding on the west side of the bay to bring his goods into the rebel lines and return back with his boat.

After having learned all this, and making the necessary arrangements for shipping, I returned to camp, and about the 15th of October I went back again. I found Mr. Hancock at home. He told me that

the boat had left for the other side of the bay the day before. He also told me that Mr. Raymond Luke was in Houma yet; that he made Houma his headquarters to keep down suspicion, for the damned Yankee spies were watching him very close. I told Hancock that I had my goods at Terre Bonne Station; he appeared very well pleased, and told me that his son-in-law, Joseph Wasser, would take them across the bay for me if I could get them to some point on Bayou Grand Caillou, where they could be shipped by water. He also told me that Mr. Blanchard was a good rebel and would do everything in his power to assist me in getting my goods across. I then went to see Mr. Blanchard; he told me that he had been in the business, but was not at the present time. I then told him that as he was not in the business I hoped he would not expose me, to which he replied, no, but that he would give me all the assistance in his power. I left him with that understanding and returned to Hancock's, who told me that Mr. Blanchard's boat had previous to that run the blockade. I then renewed with Mr. Hancock my previous contract and arrangements in regard to shipping goods across the bay. I was to get my goods to an old warehouse in Grand Caillou, where the boats were to come in to receive them. With this understanding I left him and returned to camp again. About the 25th of October I went to see Mr. Hancock again. This time I was in company of Mr. Todd, whom I introduced as my partner (having spoken of him in the presence of Mr. Hancock before), and being at Morganza Bend in the same business. According to promise I had not come to time by two or three days. Mr. Hancock wanted to know why I was delayed. I told him that my partner, Mr. Todd, whom I introduced as Williams, had got into trouble at Morganza Bend, and I had to go and assist in getting him out. He then wanted to know if I had succeeded in getting my goods to Houma. I told him that as we had lost a great many goods, I was afraid to bring them down until things became a little quiet; so I thought that I and my partner would come down and see how things were going on on the bayou. He told me that everything was quiet, and that if we had our goods there, we could take them across, for there was a boat going across next day. Mr. Wasser was present and I had a talk with him. He told me that he would take the goods at any time that I could be able to get them to the bayou. Mr. Hancock also told me that Mr. Raymond Luke was at Houma yet; we then made arrangements with Mr. Hancock and Mr. Wasser for them to take the goods, and Mr. Williams was to go with them. There was also a young man there by the name of Whitfield that said he was an escaped prisoner from New Orleans. Mr. Hancock was keeping this man about his house until there was a boat going across, so that he could get through the lines. After making all the necessary arrangements for shipping goods with Mr. Wasser we returned to camp.

On the 8th of November Mr. Williams and myself went to Mr. Hancock's house again. On arriving at his house we found him at his dinner; as soon as we stepped in the house we saw that there was something wrong. On inquiry we learned that he had suspected who we were. He told us there had been a telegram sent from Houma the night before that there were some Yankee spies coming down Bayou Grand Caillou, and for them to be on the lookout. We then inquired of him where Mr. Wasser and Mr. Whitfield were. He first told me they had gone across, but after talking for some time we found out to the contrary; that they were only about a mile down the bayou at Joseph Wasser's house. We got into a boat and took a boy for a pilot. When we came in sight of the house we saw a small schooner. The boy spoke

up and said she was the blockade runner. We also saw Mr. Wasser and Mr. Whitfield leave the house and take to the woods, Mr. Whitfield climbing a tree and with his glass was looking up the bayou. On landing in front of the house we went ashore, inquired for Mr. Wasser, and a strange man told us that he was in the woods chopping near by. We asked him to go for Mr. Wasser, which he did. Mr. Wasser came, looking somewhat surprised and alarmed. We inquired of him for Mr. Whitfield. He said that Mr. Whitfield was in the woods near by. We asked him to go and tell him that we wished to see him. Whitfield came, looking somewhat excited, with his glass in his hand. We asked him if he had been across yet; he replied no, and said that he had been waiting for the last three days for the wind to go down so that he could go across. We then asked him when he was going across; he looked somewhat excited and said he did not know. We asked him if he could get a cart and horse to bring a trunk of goods from Houma, as we had succeeded in getting them that far. He told us he thought not, as there was no horse and cart to be had. We then continued the conversation, talking over our former arrangements. He told us we had better wait until he went across and got us a permit to ship. After talking for some little time we saw three or four strange men coming in from around the house. Mr. Whitfield then proposed that we should stay all night, as it was getting late, and in the morning we would make some arrangement about getting our goods from Houma. I and my partner did not like the way things were going, so we thought we had better get away. We got into the boat and went up the bayou to Hancock's. While going up the bayou we looked on the other side and saw Battice Luke on horseback watching us. We landed our boat in front of Hancock's house, went ashore, and talked the matter over to ourselves. We saw that we were betrayed and had better do the best we could, so we told Hancock we were going up the bayou to Mr. Cornell's to see Jackson and try to get him to send to Houma and get our trunk. Arriving at Mr. Cornell's and taking supper, we told Jackson, the overseer, that we were going up to Mr. Blanchard's to see him. Going up the bayou some two miles we thought they would be likely to follow us, so we took our horses back in the woods some distance from the road, then crept up in the grass close to the roadside. We had not been there long until three men rode by; they went a short distance above us and surrounded a house, but not finding us there they crossed the bridge and went up the bayou, and in about two hours they returned, going back down the bayou. We remained there until morning and then went up the bayou to Ernest Lambert's, and of him we borrowed a revolver; then went back to Hancock's again, and on arriving there we found no person at the house. We returned to camp again. This is a full statement of the facts connected with the detection.

In order that you may more fully understand the country and locality in which these smugglers live, I make the following statement: Mr. Hancock lives on Bayou Grand Caillou below Pelton's plantation; the locality of his house is such that it is impossible to get there either on foot or on horseback except by one road leading down the bayou. Mr. Wasser lives about one mile below Mr. Hancock's on the bayou, and it is impossible to get there except by water. Mr. Raymond Luke and brother, Battice Luke, live one mile below Wasser's, on the opposite side of the bayou, and it is impossible to get to these houses only by one road leading down the bayou. My opinion is, in order to arrest this band of thieves and smugglers it will be necessary to blockade the mouth of Bayou Grand Caillou so as to prevent them from going

across into the Southern lines, and also a squad of cavalrymen be sent down Bayou Grand Caillou as far as Hancock's, there dismounting and going by water down the bayou to Wasser's and Luke's. I would also say they can run their boats out in little bayous and inlets that lead back into the sea marsh, so that it would be impossible for them to be found, only by those who hid them. This is a true statement of the facts as I know them to be.

Your most obedient servant,

COLUMBUS MOORE,
Captain Company D, Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry.

Capt. B. B. CAMPBELL, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Eugene S. Thrall, Sixtieth Indiana Infantry.

HOUMA, *November 29, 1864.*

GENERAL: The boat in which Captains Moore and Stevenson, Lieutenant Jordan and seven men of Sixteenth Indiana Volunteers proceeded down Grand Caillou has been brought back by Mr. Raymond Luke, whom Captain Moore took with him for a pilot. Luke reports that the party (of Captains Moore and Stevenson, Lieutenant Jordan and the rest) were captured on the night of the 23d instant by one Captain Jefferson, of the rebel army, and ten men, who sent the prisoners across the bay toward Franklin, and then allowed him (Luke) to return home with the boat. Luke also reports the officers and men intoxicated and noisy at the time of their capture.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EUGENE S. THRALL,
First Lieut., Comdg. Company E, Sixtieth Indiana Vols.

[Brig. Gen. R. A. CAMERON,
Commanding District of La Fourche.]

No. 3.

Report of Sergt. John Simms, Company E, Sixteenth Indiana Infantry.

THIBODEAUX, LA., *November 28, 1864.*

SIR: In compliance with instructions from the general commanding the district, I have the honor to submit the following report of the doings of the scouting party under the command of Captain Moore, so far as the same has come to my knowledge:

On Saturday morning, November 19, Company E, Lieutenant Jordan in command, marched from Terre Bonne, and arrived at Houma about 3 p. m. of the same day. Here Captain Stevenson assumed command of the company. About dark of the same day Company D, Sixteenth Indiana, Captain Moore, arrived and we bivouacked for the night. On Sunday morning, the 20th, the detachment marched to Bayou Grand Caillou, as I understood the name, and down the bayou to a Government plantation occupied by a Mr. Lambert. At this point the wagons were left with a guard and the march resumed to a point about two miles farther. Here Captain Moore sent Captain Stevenson with his company across the bayou. The march was continued with a company on each side of the bayou. Company E marched about three

miles farther, when Captain Moore, with a few men of Company D, joined Captain Stevenson's company and both companies returned to Mr. Lambert's place, where the wagons had been left. Captain Stevenson during this march arrested five men, two of whom Captain Moore released when he joined Company E, and some boats were destroyed.

On Monday morning Capt. C. Moore, Capt. J. Stevenson, Lieut. W. H. Jordan, a sergeant and six privates took two days' rations and proceeded down the bayou. Captain Moore informed me that I would have command of Company E, and that Sergt. Joseph Yandell, Company D, would command Company D during their absence, and that in case the rations should fail that we would have to forage for subsistence, and that the men should be allowed to hunt, three or four at a time. Nothing was said of the object of the expedition or the length of time they would be gone. I protested against their all going and leaving the detachment without a commissioned officer, and asked that one should be left, but this was refused. About noon of the 21st a Mr. Patton Pelton (I believe was his name), who resided on a plantation about five miles from our camp, came to our quarters and reported that a soldier had shot and killed a little girl and had fired at a negro man on his plantation. I immediately took two men of my company and proceeded to the place, where I found a mulatto girl, about twelve or thirteen years old, lying dead in a field. She had evidently been killed by a pistol-ball, which had entered the forehead and passed entirely through the head. I learned from the negro man, who was near, that the girl had been shot by a drunken soldier, who had first fired at one of the men and then had shot and killed the girl. One of the men had witnessed the killing. After getting all the information I could from them I proceeded to the planter's house, half a mile farther on. Between the house and where the dead girl lay I met three men of Company D, Privates Hilton, Davis, and another I did not know. They were running their horses at full speed. Hilton was very much intoxicated. I made an effort to stop them, but none stopped but Davis. I questioned him about the killing of the girl; he answered that he knew nothing about it. Not getting any further information I returned to camp. I immediately informed Sergeant Yandell of the particulars and stated to him that I was satisfied that Hilton was the guilty party and suggested that he be arrested. Yandell declined to arrest him, but said he would keep an eye on him and not let him escape. And so matters remained until Saturday, the 26th, during which time nothing had been heard from the absent party. On this day the adjutant of the Thirty-third Illinois came to our quarters, and having learned of the killing of the little girl, took two men of Company E and arrested Hilton. The same evening an orderly arrived with a communication addressed to Captain Moore, and there being no commissioned officer present, I opened the same and found it to be an order from the commanding general for the detachment to return to their stations immediately, which was accordingly done, Company E stopping at Terre Bonne and Company D returning to Thibodeaux. Sergeant Yandell took charge of the prisoner, stating that the adjutant of the Thirty-third Illinois had ordered him to deliver Hilton to district headquarters. Of his subsequent escape I know nothing.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN SIMMS,

First Sergeant Company E, Commanding Company.

Capt. B. B. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NOVEMBER 20, 1864.—Skirmish with Indians near Fort Zarah, Kans.

Report of Maj. Benjamin S. Henning, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF UPPER ARKANSAS,
Fort Riley, Kans., November 25, 1864.

MAJOR: For the information of the general commanding I have the honor to inform you that on Sunday, the 20th instant, Capt. Henry Booth, district inspector, and Lieut. A. Helliwell, acting ordnance officer, were attacked by Indians about five miles west of Fort Zarah and both severely wounded. Captain Booth was shot in the back, the arrow striking the shoulder blade and bending, and through the arm below the elbow. Lieutenant Helliwell was hit four times, twice in the head, once in the right arm, and once in the back. The wounds were severe, but not considered dangerous. The circumstances of the attack are these: The officers are on an inspecting tour, and having finished inspecting at Fort Zarah were furnished with an escort to proceed to Fort Larned. As the officers expected to travel faster than the escort, they permitted the escort to precede them about two hours. About five miles from Fort Zarah, and before they had overtaken the escort, twenty-five or thirty Indians appeared and attacked them. The officers immediately turned for Fort Zarah and had a running fight with the Indians for a distance of nearly two miles and succeeded in escaping without further injury. They think they killed some of the Indians, but it is impossible to tell for certain. A force from Fort Zarah immediately started in pursuit and had not returned at last date.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. S. HENNING,
Major Third Wisconsin Cavalry, Commanding District.

Maj. C. S. CHARLOT,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of Kansas, Fort Leavenworth.

NOVEMBER 21–30, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Fulton, Mo., with skirmish (28th) near Fulton.

Report of Maj. Douglas Dale, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACH. FOURTH CAV. MO. STATE MILITIA,
Fulton, Mo., December 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Inclosed I forward tri-monthy report for ten days ending November 30. On last Saturday six guerrillas entered the northwest part of this county, traveling south on a line some ten miles west of this place. On their route they robbed several citizens and hanged two negro men near Millersburg. Sunday I sent detachments in different directions to try and find their whereabouts. Monday evening about sunset one of my detachments came upon them thirteen miles south of this place. A running fight ensued in which the outlaws scattered to the brush, and night coming on the pursuit could not be continued until morning. On Tuesday morning another one of my detachments came upon them, and in like manner they were scattered to the brush and had one horse killed. They were overtaken again about noon, and as before were scattered. My men continued to follow them all that day and the next, but lost the trail and abandoned

farther pursuit. That part of the county is very rough and the hills are covered with thick cedar brush. Wednesday afternoon I sent a detachment north of Millersburg to watch the road, thinking the guerrillas would go out in that direction. At midnight Wednesday night I received information that they were going in the direction of Millersburg. I sent another detachment to a point fifteen miles northwest of this place to find the trail and pursue them as long as there was hope of "mustering them out." My men were on the trail at 10 a. m. to-day, being the last I have heard from them. I have sixteen contraband horses, or rather horses taken from that class of prisoners claiming to be conscripts, the question of contraband not being decided. The prisoners from whom these horses were taken have been sent to Saint Louis by the provost-marshal at this place. What shall I do with these horses? If to be turned over to a quartermaster can I take them to Jefferson City, it being the nearest point? I await your orders in regard to them.

Captain, I am, with much respect, your obedient servant,

D. DALE,
Major Fourth Cav., Mo. State Militia, Comdg. at Fulton, Mo.

Capt. GEORGE A. HOLLOWAY,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of North Missouri, Macon, Mo.

NOVEMBER 22–24, 1864.—Scout from Devall's Bluff to Augusta, Ark.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, Ark., November 24, 1864—2 p. m.

CAPTAIN: Captain Goodspeed (Sixty-first Illinois), commanding scout to Augusta, has just returned with six prisoners, including three lieutenants. He reached Augusta at 4 yesterday morning, but as the boat got too near town before landing, a rebel picket of fifteen made their escape. He reports two battalions under McDaniel and Tucker, of about 800 men total, a few miles above Augusta on the levee. McCray and Dobbin are east of Cache River, probably near Cotton Plant. Dobbin's men are getting together; cavalry went to salt-works, west of White River. No accident or loss to us.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NOVEMBER 23, 1864.—Skirmishes at Morganza, La.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Daniel Ullmann, U. S. Army.

MORGANZA, LA., *November 24, 1864.*
(Received 10.20 a. m.)

The enemy's cavalry are hovering around all my lines. General Lawler drew in what few cavalry pickets there were and yesterday before sundown the enemy attempted to cut off my up-river outpost,

killing the officer in command and several men. Last night they attacked my left, killing some and driving off the cattle. It is represented that a force, large or small, is crossing the Atchafalaya. It will not be possible to prevent the capturing of outposts without cavalry. Colonel Chrysler, Second New York Cavalry, is here to take away the thirty or more cavalry left and all the ineffective men. I earnestly ask that Colonel Chrysler, with his regiment, now at Baton Rouge, be ordered back, as they are all familiar with every bridle-path in this section.

It is desirable that I should have an answer this morning before Colonel Chrysler leaves.

DANIEL ULLMANN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. C. T. CHRISTENSEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., November 24, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I assumed command of the U. S. forces stationed at this place on the afternoon of the 23d instant. Ascertaining on investigation that for two days all the cavalry pickets had been drawn in, and that the infantry picket-line was weak and in an inefficient condition, I immediately directed my attention to regulating and strengthening it. Before this could be satisfactorily done, information was brought to me at 5 p. m. that a detachment of the enemy's horse, estimated at fifty or sixty, had attacked and endeavored to cut off the outpost on the up-river road. They charged between the outpost and the picket-line, and succeeded in scattering the former. The casualties are as follows: Killed, 1 commissioned officer and 2 enlisted men; wounded, 3 enlisted men; missing, 14 enlisted men. Second Lieut. A. D. Vallade, Company I, Eighty fourth U. S. Colored Infantry, commanding outpost, was seriously wounded in the right breast, and died in a few hours. This excellent young officer met his fate gallantly and was brutally robbed by the rebels of his watch, money, and clothes even to his shirt. I have the satisfaction of reporting that the reserve of the grand guard, under Second Lieut. J. H. Wisner, Company K, Eighty-fourth U. S. Colored Infantry, behaved with much steadiness, and by their promptness in supporting the outpost, drove off the enemy, it is believed, with some loss, killing several. During the night the enemy showed himself repeatedly at various points along the line, and at about 10 p. m. made an unsuccessful attempt, near the outpost on the down-river road, to drive off the cattle of the command; two of the herdsmen were wounded, one of whom has since died. Having no effective cavalry I was unable to pursue the enemy. I have information from several sources, corroborating each other, that the Confederates have, within two days, been crossing the Atchafalaya at several points. Lyon's Ferry, Morgan's Ferry, and Simsport are named. They seem to have had excellent means of information respecting this command, as I have satisfactory evidence that parties twenty-six miles from these lines had a knowledge two days before it was communicated to me that Brigadier-General Lawler was ordered elsewhere, and that all the cavalry was ordered away. I am informed that the celebrated Confederate scout, McAnnelly, was seen yesterday six miles from

the pickets and that he had recently been within the lines of this command. I beg leave respectfully to represent that without a sufficient force of cavalry I shall not be able to prevent my infantry outposts and pickets from being constantly attacked, nor shall I have the power to keep the telegraph line in order.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

DANIEL ULLMANN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Dept. of the Gulf, New Orleans.

NOVEMBER 23-DECEMBER 10, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Wingate against Indians in New Mexico, with skirmish (December 1) on the Red River.

Report of Maj. Ethan W. Eaton, First New Mexico Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Wingate, N. Mex., December 14, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in compliance with instructions from general commanding department, dated Socorro, N. Mex., November 15, 1864, I started on the 23d of same month in the direction indicated in said instructions to cross the trail of sheep stolen from near Lemitar, N. Mex., on the 8th.

On the 24th at about noon passed Agua Fria, and on the 26th, afternoon, reached Rito Quemado. No water between the two places. Left Rito Quemado on the 27th. Traveled southeast toward the south end of the Sierra del Datil and northeast end of Sierra del Mangas to the head of the Rio del Mangas, between the two ranges. In the afternoon at the head of Rio del Mangas found trail I was in search of. When the sheep had passed there must have been from eight to ten inches of snow on the ground, and when I found the trail there was none. This made it almost impossible to follow it, as it could only be seen at long intervals, and then very dim. The fear of losing the trail or being discovered by the Indians in time for them to escape compelled me to travel on foot with the guide and trailers from the time I first found the trail until the Indians were overtaken, not mounting my horse for over four days. The men were also on foot.

On the 28th, after passing the Mangas Mountains, I found at about noon where the Indians had left their families while on their expedition to the river. There were ten lodges, now deserted. These were of eight Apaches with their families, three Navajos with families, and five Navajos that had left their families near or with Manuelito's band, near the Moquine villages, in all about fifty-five persons. Sixteen (eight Apaches and eight Navajos) stole the sheep. Before leaving the lodges the Apaches separated, taking probably about one-half of the stock, and the Navajos also separated in four or five different parties, each with their proportion of stock. This information was received from the Navajo squaw taken. With the party I followed there were two others for the first day, as where they slept the night after leaving the lodges there appeared to be three lots, but I could not tell when or in what direction they left the trail that I happened to follow. I followed the trail with great difficulty until the 30th about noon, after which time it was comparatively plain.

On the 29th at about 4 p. m. found water in holes, not having had any since 27th at about noon. The Indians had up to the 30th appar-

ently selected the worst ground they could possibly find, often turning back and going up some mesa almost perpendicular and very rocky. This was probably done to hide their trail.

On the 1st December at about 3.30 p. m., and ninth day from this post, overtook the Indians camped in a narrow at the head of a cañon running to Red River, about six miles from it and twenty from its head, thick pinon and cedar timber and rocky gulches on each side of the valley, selected with the habitual cunning of the Indian, with the view to an easy escape in case of attack. I immediately attacked them, but could not get nearer than about 400 or 500 yards to them before they saw us. Fired upon them as they jumped in the timber, but could not see that any of them were hit. They had no time to take anything with them. They had about 175 head of sheep, one horse and one burro. These were taken, together with all their camp equipage, &c. I directed the detachment to secure the sheep and deploy through the timber in search of the Indians, which they did, taking 1 squaw and 1 boy prisoners. In the meantime I started in pursuit, the guide and one man coming after me mounted, but owing to the thick timber and gulches could overtake but one buck Indian. He was killed. I remained at their camp that night, collected and burned all the Indians had left, and started on my return on the morning of 2d instant. According to my calculation I had traveled 213 miles when the Indians were overtaken, and on foot. I still expected to find more Indians, and did not return direct to this post, but traveled two days north of east to near the Salt Lake, and back two days north of west to Ojo del Venado, not finding any sign of Indians that I could follow. Rations getting scarce and animals nearly used up (having already been compelled to kill two), I directed my march for Zuñi, where I arrived on the 6th instant. The squaw says that the other Navajos probably went direct to where their families were, near Moquine. They I think belonged to Manuelito's band and are of those that have not yet surrendered. There were no Moquis with them. There are also some Navajos near the head of Red River, in and about the Sierra del Escudilla, that join with the Apaches in stealing. It was my belief that this robbing had been committed by Manuelito's band, and from the length of time that had elapsed between the robbery and my starting after them I expected to find the thieves with him. His band is from 300 to 500 strong, and I took men enough (thirty-five) to give him a wholesome lesson, but I did not find him. Where I came upon the trail of the sheep was not over three or four days' travel (75 to 100 miles), perhaps less, from Limitar, and the people of that place could have retaken the stock easily if they had followed the Indians. And if I had received notice five or six days after the robbing, instead of fifteen, I would probably have found all the stock together and retaken it; at least the trail would have been easily followed before the snow melted and the Indians could not easily have escaped. I returned to this post on the 10th instant, having been absent eighteen days; was at two different times two days and once three days without water for the animals, and on this account they suffered greatly. Some of the sheep tired out and were killed on the road. I brought in 158 sheep, 1 horse, 1 burro, and 2 prisoners. One Indian killed.

The detachment I had with me deserve the greatest credit for the good will and perseverance with which they did their duty, and under very unfavorable circumstances, considering the age and dimness of the trail. They passed several nights without fire, suffering severely from the cold.

I traveled, according to my calculation, 395 miles almost in a circle, not having struck my outward trail until within twenty miles of this post. Many of the men were with their feet on the ground before the Indians were overtaken. Rawhide was found at the Indian camp, with which they patched their shoes.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. W. EATON,
Major First Cavalry New Mexico Vols., Commanding Post.

Capt. BENJAMIN C. CUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of New Mexico.

NOVEMBER 25, 1864.—Affair at Raccourci, near Williamsport, La.

Report of Brig. Gen. Daniel Ullmann, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., November 27, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 25th instant a Lieutenant Thatcher, U. S. Navy, commanding the Gazelle gun-boat, No. 50, while on shore with two men at Raccourci, near Williamsport, was murdered by guerrillas and horribly mutilated. Lieut. Commander John J. Cornwell, U. S. Navy, commanding Second and Third Divisions Mississippi Squadron, states to me this afternoon that he gave notice some time since to the inhabitants below Red River, along Old River, and the Mississippi, that if any of his officers or men were murdered he would take summary vengeance upon them and their property. He intends to retaliate some time next week and earnestly requests me to send a force to co-operate with him.

I have the honor to request instructions both as to whether I shall co-operate with Captain Cornwell and also as to the extent to which retaliation shall be carried. I am informed that there is in that direction a large number of horses, mules, and cattle, and also much forage.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

DANIEL ULLMANN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NOVEMBER 25, 1864.—Engagement with Indians at Adobe Fort, on the Canadian River, N. Mex.

Reports of Col. Christopher Carson, First New Mexico Cavalry.

HDQRS. KIOWA AND COMANCHE EXPEDITION,
Camp on Rita Blanco, 100 miles east of Fort Bascom,
December 4, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit for the information of the general commanding the department the following report of my operations against the Kiowa and Comanche Indians:

I arrived at Fort Bascom, N. Mex., on the 10th ultimo, with seventy-five Ute and Apache Indians. At this place I found all the companies composing the expedition in readiness to move at any moment. I left Fort Bascom on the 12th ultimo with the following force, viz, Captain Fritz's

company (B, First Cavalry, California Volunteers), 60 men; Captain Witham's company (M, First Cavalry, California Volunteers), 30 men; Lieutenant Heath, with a detachment of Company K, First Cavalry, California Volunteers, 38 men; Captain Deus' company (M, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers), Lieutenant Bishop and 69 men; Captain Berney's company (D, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers), 39 men; Lieutenant Edmiston, with 58 men of Company A, First Veteran Infantry, California Volunteers, and Lieutenant Pettis, with 27 men of Company K, First Infantry, California Volunteers, and two mountain howitzers. The infantry force was commanded by Lieut. Col. F. P. Abreu, First Infantry, New Mexico Volunteers, and the cavalry by Maj. William McCleave, First Cavalry California Volunteers. This force was accompanied by seventy-five Ute and Apache Indians, in charge of Lieut. Charles Haberkorn, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, whom I took with me for that purpose. Lieut. J. C. Edgar accompanied me as acting assistant adjutant-general of the expedition. Lieut. B. Taylor, Fifth U. S. Infantry, as acting assistant quartermaster, and acting commissary of subsistence, and Asst. Surg. George S. Courtright, U. S. Volunteers, as surgeon to my command. Total, 14 officers, and 321 enlisted men, and 75 Indians. This force was subsisted to include December 31, 1864. I deemed it proper to take wagons as transportation as far as a point known as the Adobe Fort, about 200 miles east of Fort Bascom, on the Canadian River, at which point I intended to form a depot and operate with pack-mules. I considered that the number of pack-saddles at my disposal (100) was insufficient to transport the necessary supply of subsistence to take me to the place where I expected to find an Indian encampment. Traveled by easy stages on a practicable wagon road along the north bank of the Canadian River, having to lay over on two occasions for one day on account of snowstorms. On the 24th ultimo, while encamped on a creek known as the Arroya de la Mula, about thirty miles west of the Adobe Fort, I dispatched two Indian spies with instructions to proceed a short distance down the Canadian, and return the same evening if they saw any fresh signs of Indians. They returned about one hour after sundown and gave me information from which I concluded that there was a camp of hostile Kiowa and Comanche Indians in my vicinity. I immediately gave orders to have all the wagons loaded and left in charge of Lieutenant-Colonel Abreu with the infantry and dismounted cavalry force, and I moved forward with my entire mounted force and Lieutenant Pettis' howitzers. I marched about fifteen miles that night and again encamped and sent my spies ahead. They returned about two hours before daybreak, when I immediately took the saddle and continued my march down the river.

About one hour after daybreak on the morning of the 25th ultimo I discovered a party of Indians on the opposite bank of the river, who were calling to me to come over. I ordered Major McCleave with Captain Deus' company to cross over and pursue them, and I continued my march along the river. Soon after I discovered an Indian encampment about five miles in advance. I immediately directed Captain Fritz to advance with his company, and act in conjunction with Major McCleave, who was on the opposite bank of the river with Captain Deus' company. On hearing the report of fire-arms in front, I concluded that a fight had commenced, and I directed Lieutenant Heath, with his detachment, to advance, and I followed as fast as possible with the artillery and Captains Witham's and Berney's companies. The Indians abandoned their camp of about 150 lodges, but hotly contested the ground between there

and the Adobe Fort, a distance of about four miles. At this point they took a position and made a stand. They made several severe charges on Major McCleave's command before my arrival with the artillery and the other companies, but were gallantly repulsed. On my arrival on the ground I ordered the artillery to take a position, and the engagement ceased for a short time. Finding it impossible, on account of the broken-down condition of my cavalry horses, to capture any of the stock which the Indians had in their possession, I gave orders to unsaddle, and the men to have breakfast, it being my intention to return and destroy the Indian village through which I had passed. On looking through my glass I discovered a large force of Indians advancing from another village about three miles east of the Adobe Fort. In this village there were at least 350 lodges. I immediately ordered the command to saddle and the companies to take a position. In a short time I found myself surrounded by at least 1,000 Indian warriors, mounted on first-class horses. They repeatedly charged my command from different points, but were invariably repulsed with great loss. The two mountain howitzers, under Lieutenant Pettis, did good service, and finally drove the enemy out of range. The Indians still remained in my vicinity, and I conjectured that it was their object to keep me in my position at the Adobe Fort, if possible, until night, that they might have an opportunity to carry off their lodges and provisions from their village, also some stock that they had left behind them in their retreat. I therefore determined to return to the village and destroy it. I now gave orders for Captain Fritz to protect my right flank with his company, dismounted and deployed as skirmishers; Captain Witham's and a part of Captain Deus' company on the left flank, and Captain Berney's and Lieutenant Heath's detachment, and a part of Captain Deus' company in the same manner to protect the rear. In this manner I commenced my march on the village. The Indians, seeing my object, again advanced, with the evident intention of saving their village and property, if possible. Now commenced the most severe fighting of the day. The Indians charged so repeatedly and with such desperation that for some time I had serious doubts for the safety of my rear, but the coolness with which they were received by Captain Berney's command, and the steady and constant fire poured into them, caused them to retire upon every occasion with great slaughter.

The Indians now finding it impossible to impede my march by their repeated charges, set fire to the valley in my rear, which was composed of long grass and weeds, and the wind being favorable it burned with great fury and caused my rear to close up at double-quick. I immediately saw their object and had the valley fired in my front to facilitate my march. I then retired to a piece of elevated ground on my right flank upon which the grass was short, and upon which I knew I was out of danger from the fire. Here the Indians again advanced under cover of the fire and smoke which raged with great fury, but my artillery being in position they were again repulsed with great slaughter. The fighting was constantly kept up in rear until I arrived within about 500 yards of the Indian village, when the Indians made a charge forward for the purpose of rescuing a part of their property. However, a few shells from my howitzers, which were immediately put in position, drove them yelling from the ground, and the entire village and stores were in my possession. I then proceeded to destroy the village and stores, amounting to about 150 lodges of the best manufacture, a large amount of dried meat, berries, buffalo robes, powder, cook-

ing utensils, &c.; also a buggy and spring wagon, the property of Sierrito or Little Mountain, the Kiowa chief of the Indians which I engaged. The principal number were Kiowas with a small number of Comanches, Apaches, and Arapahoes, all of which were armed with rifles, and I must say that they acted with more daring and bravery than I have ever before witnessed. The engagement commenced about 8.30 a. m. and lasted I may say without intermission until sunset, during which time I had 2 soldiers killed and 10 wounded, and 1 Indian killed and 5 wounded, and a large number of horses wounded (see inclosed list). It is impossible for me to form a correct estimate of the enemy's loss, but from the number which I saw fall from their horses during the engagement, I cannot call it less than 60 in killed and wounded. I flatter myself that I have taught these Indians a severe lesson, and hereafter they will be more cautious about how they engage a force of civilized troops. The officers and men engaged acted with the utmost coolness during the fight and my entire command showed a promptitude in carrying out my orders on all occasions.

I take pleasure in bringing to your notice the names of the following officers, whose conduct during the fight deserves the highest praise: They are Major McCleave, Captain Fritz, and Lieut. S. Heath, First Cavalry, California Volunteers; Captains Deus and Berney, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers. Lieutenant Pettis' howitzers were well served and did remarkably good service. Lieut. J. C. Edgar, First Cavalry New Mexico Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general of the expedition, was remarkable for his coolness and bravery during the engagement. I am indebted to Assistant Surgeon Courtright, U. S. Volunteers, for his prompt attention to the wounded of my command. The Ute and Apache Indians acted bravely during the day.

The Indians seeing their village in flames fled to the hills and gave me no further annoyance. I regret very much that the poor condition of my horses did not permit me to follow them and secure the large amount of stock which they had in their possession, also another large village which I could observe through my glass farther down the river. The company commanders now reported to me that their ammunition was nearly expended. I deemed it prudent to return and join my wagons, which I directed to follow me slowly. About 8.30 p. m. I came on Colonel Abreu's command encamped with the entire train on a creek about ten miles west of the Adobe Fort. Here I also encamped for the night. In the morning I moved my entire command about 500 yards for the purpose of procuring better grass for my animals. I now decided that owing to the broken-down condition of my cavalry horses and transportation and the Indians having fled in all directions with their stock, that it was impossible for me to chastise them further at present. Therefore, on the morning of the 27th ultimo, I broke camp and commenced my return trip. I have traveled by easy marches in order that I may take all my animals to the fort if possible, and I have arrived at this point without any incident worthy of note. I shall continue to travel slowly to Fort Bascom, where I expect to arrive about the 10th instant, and I will await there for further instructions from the general commanding.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CARSON,

Colonel First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, Comdg.

Capt. BENJAMIN C. CUTLER,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of New Mexico, Santa Fé, N. Mex.

HEADQUARTERS KIOWA AND COMANCHE EXPEDITION,
Camp near Fort Bascom, N. Mex., December 16, 1864.

GENERAL: I arrived at this place with my command on the 10th instant. I brought in almost all of my stock, but in a very broken-down and unserviceable condition, so much so that it cannot possibly take the field in less than six weeks. If it is your intention that this command again take the field, as I think it should do, I would respectfully suggest to you not to send it for at least six weeks, and that during that time it be furnished with forage for all the cavalry horses and quartermaster's mules, as they cannot be recruited to do good service on grass alone. And that while in camp at this place, or at the time of starting, my present command be re-enforced by 700 mounted men, or all of the mounted men that you can possibly spare, and enough infantry to make up the 700 men. Also two 6-pounder and two 12-pounder rifled guns. This will make my command about 1,000 strong, and no smaller command should go after these Indians with the expectation of chastizing them in a proper manner. I would further suggest that this command be furnished with transportation for four months' subsistence from the time they reach the Adobe Fort, at which point I think the depot should be established. In this manner I think the Indians could be brought to our terms, but in no other. Now is the time, in my opinion, to keep after them. They must live on or near the Canadian River during the winter with their families and stock, and I think that if a command be sent there as I suggest, that by next summer the Indians can be brought to any terms. There are immense quantities of buffalo in two days' travel of the point at which I had the fight, and I think the Indians can be found there in large numbers. On the day of the fight my men found in the lodges a number of women and children's dresses, bonnets, shoes, &c.; some of these I saw myself. I have since been told by Mexican traders that the Indians have in their possession five white women and two children. If we can take some of their women and children I may be able to buy the white women and children from them. I would here suggest that no more of these traders be allowed to go among these Indians. On the day of the fight I destroyed a large amount of powder, lead, caps, &c., and I have no doubt that this and the very balls with which my men were killed and wounded were sold by these Mexicans not ten days before. We saw the tracks of three wagons going down the river, and you may be sure they belonged to the traders. But I blame the Mexicans not half so much as I do Mr. Steck, superintendent of Indian affairs, who gave them the pass to go and trade, he knowing perfectly well at the time that we were at war with the Indians, and that the Mexicans would take what they could sell best, which was powder, lead, and caps, and Mr. Steck should have known better than to give passes to these men to trade, when every one knows that ammunition is all the Indians want at this time. I will move camp the day after to-morrow twelve miles up the river, as the grass is much better there than at this place, and where I will wait for further orders from you.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

C. CARSON,
Colonel First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. CARLETON,
Comdg. Department of New Mexico, Santa Fé, N. Mex.

ADDENDA.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO,
Las Cruces, N. Mex., December 15, 1864.

Col. CHRISTOPHER CARSON,
Commanding Expedition against the Kiowa and Comanche Indians, Fort Bascom, N. Mex.:

COLONEL: I had the pleasure to receive your very interesting and satisfactory report of your battle with the Kiowas on the 25th ultimo, and have sent a copy of it to the War Department. I beg to express to you and the gallant officers and soldiers whom you commanded on that occasion, as well as to our good auxiliaries, the Utes and Apaches, my thanks for the handsome manner in which you all met so formidable an enemy and defeated him. Please to publish an order to this effect. This brilliant affair adds another green leaf to the laurel wreath which you have so nobly won in the service of your country.

That you may long be spared to be of still further service is the sincere wish of

Your obedient servant and friend,
JAMES H. CARLETON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NOVEMBER 27–30, 1864.—Scout from Little Rock to Benton, Ark.

Report of Capt. William Hawley, Third U. S. Cavalry.

CAMP THIRD U. S. CAVALRY,
Little Rock, Ark., December 1, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that in accordance with instructions received I proceeded with my command, consisting of detachments of the Third U. S. Cavalry and the Third Missouri Cavalry, out the Jenkins Ferry road. At a point eight miles from Little Rock the advance guard was fired upon by a party of bushwhackers, which was immediately returned and every effort made to capture them, but without success. Among them was a citizen whom I arrested and sent under guard to brigade headquarters. The command then continued its march down the Jenkins Ferry road for a distance of twenty-eight miles, when it encamped for the night. Finding no forage at this point and ascertaining that none was to be obtained on that road, I deemed it imprudent on account of the state of the horses to proceed farther on that road. On the morning following, taking a small cross-road leading to the rear of Benton, the march was resumed, and reaching Benton about 7 a. m. the command charged the town, but found no one except a few citizens, who stated that most all the Confederate troops had gone to Red River. Unable to obtain any forage at this place or in the neighborhood, I was compelled to return to Little Rock, reaching here about 6 p. m. 30th ultimo. In concluding, I would respectfully state that the country through which I traveled was destitute of beef-cattle and forage. The casualties of the command were the loss of 4 horses, three of which belonged to the Third Missouri Cavalry, two having died in camp from causes unknown, one abandoned, also one from the Third U. S. Cavalry abandoned as unable to travel.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. HAWLEY,
Captain, Third U. S. Cavalry, Commanding Scout.

Lieut. W. T. HAMILTON, *Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

NOVEMBER 29, 1864.—Skirmish at Doyal's Plantation, La.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

No. 2.—Asst. Surg. George A. Monroe, Third Rhode Island Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding District of La Fourche.

THIBODEAUX, LA., *November 30, 1864.*
(Received 3 p. m.)

The company of cavalry which was at Donaldsonville was thrown across the river yesterday. Major Beebe reports half of the one ordered from Napoleonville there about to cross on the steamer Iberville. Before the company crossed yesterday the small squad already there were attacked. A lieutenant and 12 men of our party, together with an assistant surgeon, were captured, the latter wounded. We inflicted a loss of 1 killed and 3 wounded upon the rebels.

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Capt. F. SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

DEFENSES OF NEW ORLEANS,
November 30, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to General Hurlbut for information.

Having no cavalry on this side of the river I ordered two companies from General Cameron's command. It appears they did not cross quite soon enough. I have ordered the whole country between the Mississippi and Amite immediately scoured.

T. W. SHERMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

No. 2.

Report of Asst. Surg. George A. Monroe, Third Rhode Island Cavalry.

DONALDSONVILLE, LA., *December 13, 1864.*

SIR: In compliance with your orders of the 10th instant I have the honor to forward the following report and a copy of my parole:

On the morning of the 29th ultimo Second Lieutenant Tefft, with thirteen men and myself, left camp on the east side of the Mississippi for New River in pursuit of a small party of jayhawkers, reported to have pillaged a neighboring plantation the night previous; got no tidings of them, but the citizens reported the rebel soldiers in considerable force. Lieutenant Tefft deeming it imprudent to proceed farther returned by the New River road as far as Doyal's plantation; halted

to feed at 2 p. m. After feeding, Lieutenant Tefft and his men, with their arms, went to the houses to eat. In about fifteen minutes two suspicious men passed. The lieutenant ordered a sergeant to follow and arrest them. In their absence half a dozen rebels were reported close at hand. Lieutenant Tefft ordered his men into line, but before the order could be executed, there not being time to mount, about twenty of the rebels were upon us. After fighting about fifteen minutes we were overpowered and compelled to surrender. One man besides myself was wounded on our side; 1 horse killed, and 3 men wounded (1 mortally) on the rebel side. They then disarmed our men, ordered us to mount, and rode in the direction of New River. Shortly after the sergeant and men, with the parties whom they had arrested, came in sight and were captured by the rebel lieutenant and four men. The lieutenant finding that from the severity of my wound I was unable to proceed, stopped at New River and paroled me.

I know nothing further, as the rebel party with their prisoners left immediately, and I did not learn their destination.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

GEORGE (his x mark) A. MONROE,
Assistant Surgeon, Third Rhode Island Cavalry.

Witness to signature:
CHARLES W. TURNER,
First Lieutenant, Third Rhode Island Cavalry.

Capt. FREDERIC SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Defenses of New Orleans.

[Inclosure.]

I do hereby solemnly swear before Almighty God that I will not bear arms against the Confederate States of America until duly exchanged, nor aid or assist the U. S. Army.

DR. GEORGE A. MONROE,
Third Rhode Island Cavalry.

Paroling officer:
Lieut. A. BENNEN, C. S. Army,
Commanding Scout.

[Indorsement.]

DEFENSES OF NEW ORLEANS,
December 19, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

The most particular instructions have been repeatedly given on the subject of the performance of picket and outpost duty. Doctor Monroe is very tender in his description of this affair. I have made careful inquiry into the matter, and am assured that Lieutenant Tefft, after having felt himself compelled to return in consequence of a force reported in his front too large to cope with, made a halt at Doyal's plantation, a point most open to attack of any in that region, allowed all his men and horses to feed at the same time, set no pickets on any of the roads converging to that point, and placed himself there in the power of the enemy in violation of common sense, his duties as an officer, and particularly all instructions, which have been frequent on the subject. I recommend that this officer be at once dismissed the service. It is

going to require something more than the slow and uncertain process of a court-martial to restore to the regiments (of which this is one) demoralized by the Red River campaign that military industry and virtue without which success is not only uncertain, but even security.

T. W. SHERMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NOVEMBER 29, 1864.—Attack on the steamer Alamo, on the Arkansas River, near Dardanelle, Ark.

Report of Second Lieut. John T. S. Fry, Fortieth Iowa Infantry.

HDQRS. DETACHMENT FORTIETH IOWA VOLS.,
On Board Steamer Alamo, Strayhorn's Landing, Ark.,
November 30, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of an engagement with the enemy on the 29th instant between a detail of thirty men of the Fortieth Iowa Volunteers as guards on steamer Alamo to Fort Smith, under my command, and a detachment of rebel cavalry commanded by Col. Robert C. Newton:

About 2 p. m. yesterday, when about two miles and a half above Dardanelle, the enemy appeared in considerable force on an elevated position on the south side of the Arkansas River, dismounted, and when within about 150 yards commenced firing. They followed us about six miles, keeping up an incessant fire. My men, protected by breast-works made of oat sacks, returned the fire with coolness and deliberation. The captain of the boat informing me that we were approaching a bar that could not be crossed without difficulty, I ordered the boat to be landed on the opposite shore. Just as we were about to land some one of the rebels, supposed to be an officer, came within speaking distance and demanded surrender. To this demand a negative reply was given. After landing occasional shots were exchanged for about an hour, and then the firing ceased. The enemy encamped last night opposite the boat, but withdrew early this morning. After their departure I visited the opposite shore and ascertained from citizens that we had been fighting Colonel Newton's cavalry regiment, about 250 or 300 strong, and that they lost 2 men killed and 1 wounded; also, had 2 horses killed; I saw the graves of the killed. The boat was literally riddled with bullets. No less than eighty-seven balls struck the boat on a line with the pilot-house. The detachment under my command is composed of details from all the companies except A. My only trouble was to keep the men from exposing themselves to the fire of the enemy. Nothing but the protection afforded by the oat sacks saved my little command, one and all of whom, as well as the officers of the boat, deserve great praise for their conduct on this occasion. No serious casualty occurred to any of the men of my command. Private Charles S. Powers, Company I, narrowly escaped, a ball passing through his hair; Private Thomas Jeffers, Company D, was hit in the side by a spent ball that glanced from a stanchion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN T. S. FRY,
Second Lieut. Company C, Commanding Detachment.

Lieut. L. A. DUNCAN,
Adjutant Fortieth Iowa.

NOVEMBER 29, 1864.—Engagement with Indians on Sand Creek, Colo. Ter.

REPORTS.*

No. 1.—Col. John M. Chivington, First Colorado Cavalry, commanding expedition.
No. 2.—Maj. Scott J. Anthony, First Colorado Cavalry.
No. 3.—Lieut. Judson J. Kennedy, First Colorado Cavalry.
No. 4.—Lieut. Clark Dunn, First Colorado Cavalry.
No. 5.—Col. George L. Shoup, Third Colorado Cavalry.
No. 6.—Lieut. Col. Leavitt L. Bowen, Third Colorado Cavalry.
No. 7.—Maj. Hal Sayr, Third Colorado Cavalry.
No. 8.—Capt. Theodore G. Cree, Third Colorado Cavalry.
No. 9.—Maj. Edward W. Wynkoop, First Colorado Cavalry, of an investigation of Indian affairs in the vicinity of Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.

No. 1.

Reports of Col. John M. Chivington, First Colorado Cavalry, commanding expedition.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF COLORADO,
In the Field, Cheyenne County, South Bend of Big Sandy,
November 29, 1864.

In the last ten days my command has marched 300 miles, 100 of which the snow was two feet deep. After a march of forty miles last night I, at daylight this morning, attacked Cheyenne village of 130 lodges, from 900 to 1,000 warriors strong; killed Chiefs Black Kettle, White Antelope, Knock Knee, and Little Robe [Little Raven], and between 400 and 500 other Indians, and captured as many ponies and mules. Our loss [was] 9 killed, 38 wounded. All did nobly. Think I will catch some more of them eighty miles, on Smoky Hill. Found white man's scalp, not more than three days' old, in one of lodges.

J. M. CHIVINGTON,
Col., Comdg. First Dist. of Colo. and First Indian Expedition.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Fort Leavenworth, Department of Kansas.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF COLORADO,
Denver, Colo. Ter., December 16, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit the following report of operations of the Indian expedition under my command, of which brief notice was given you by my telegram of November 29, 1864:

Having ascertained that the hostile Indians had proceeded south from the Platte and were almost within striking distance of Fort Lyon, I ordered Col. George L. Shoup, Third Regiment Colorado Volunteer Cavalry, 100-days' service, to proceed with the mounted men of his regiment in that direction. On November 20 I left Denver, and at Booneville, Colo. Ter., on the 24th of November, joined and took command in person of the expedition, which had been increased by battalion First Cavalry of Colorado, consisting of detachments of Companies C, E, and H. I proceeded with the utmost caution down the Arkansas River, and on the morning of the 28th ultimo arrived at Fort Lyon, to

* See also Vol. 3 of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War, at the Second Session, Thirty-eighth Congress, 1865.

the surprise of the garrison of that post. On the same evening I resumed my march, being joined by Maj. Scott J. Anthony, First Cavalry of Colorado, with 125 men of said regiment, consisting of detachments of Companies D, G, and K, with two howitzers. The command then proceeded in a northeasterly direction, traveling all night, and at daylight of 29th November striking Sand Creek, about forty miles from Fort Lyon. Here was discovered an Indian village of 130 lodges, comprised of Black Kettle's band of Cheyennes and eight lodges of Arapahoes with Left Hand. My line of battle was formed with Lieutenant Wilson's battalion, First Regiment, numbering about — men, on the right; Colonel Shoup's (Third) regiment, numbering about 450 men, in the center, and Major Anthony's battalion, numbering 125 men, First Regiment, on the left. The attack was immediately made upon the Indian camp by Lieutenant Wilson, who dashed forward, cutting the enemy off from their herd, and driving them out of their camp, which was subsequently destroyed. The Indians, numbering from 900 to 1,000, though taken by surprise, speedily rallied and formed a line of battle across the creek, about three-fourths of a mile above the village, stubbornly contesting every inch of ground. The commands of Colonel Shoup and Major Anthony pressed rapidly forward and attacked the enemy sharply, and the engagement became general, we constantly driving the Indians, who fell back from one position to another for five miles, and finally abandoned resistance and dispersed in all directions, and were pursued by my troops until night-fall. It may perhaps be unnecessary for me to state that I captured no prisoners. Between 500 and 600 Indians were left dead upon the ground; about 550 ponies, mules, and horses were captured, and all their lodges were destroyed, the contents of which have served to supply the command with an abundance of trophies, comprising the paraphernalia of Indian warfare and life. My loss was 8 killed on the field and 40 wounded, of which two have since died. Of the conduct of the Third Regiment, 100-days' service, I have to say that they well sustained the reputation of our Colorado troops for bravery and effectiveness, were well commanded by their gallant young colonel, George L. Shoup, ably assisted by Lieut. Col. L. L. Bowen, Maj. Hal Sayr, and Capt. Theodore G. Cree, commanding First, Second, and Third Battalions of that regiment. Of the conduct of the two battalions of the First Regiment I have but to remark that they sustained their reputation as second to none, and were ably handled by their commanders, Major Anthony, Lieutenant Wilson, and Lieut. Clark Dunn, upon whom the command devolved after the disabling of Lieutenant Wilson from wounds received. Night coming on the pursuit of the flying Indians was of necessity abandoned and my command encamped within sight of the field.

On the 1st instant, having sent the wounded and dead to Fort Lyon, the first to be cared for, the last to be buried upon our own soil, I resumed the pursuit in direction of Camp Wynkoop, on the Arkansas River, marching all night of 3d and 4th instant, in hopes of overtaking a large encampment of Arapahoes and Cheyennes under Little Robe [Little Raven], but the enemy had been apprised of my advance, and on the morning of the 5th instant, at 3 o'clock, precipitately broke camp and fled. My stock was exhausted. For 100 miles the snow had been two feet deep, and for the previous fifteen days (excepting on November 29 and 30) the marches had been forced and incessant. Under these circumstances, and the fact of the time of the Third Regiment being nearly out, I determined for the present to relinquish the pursuit. Of the effect of the punishment sustained by the Indians you will be the

judge. Their chiefs, Black Kettle, White Antelope, One Eye, and Knock Knee were among the killed, and their bands almost annihilated. I was shown the scalp of a white man found in one of the lodges, which could not have been taken more than two or three days previous. For full particulars and reports of the several commanders, I respectfully refer you to the following copies herewith inclosed: Col. George L. Shoup, Third Regiment, December 6, 1864; Col. George L. Shoup, Third Regiment, December 7, 1864; Lieut. Col. L. L. Bowen, Third Regiment, November 30, 1864; Maj. Hal Sayr, Third Regiment, December 6, 1864; Capt. Theodore G. Cree, Third Regiment, December 6, 1864; Maj. Scott J. Anthony, First Regiment, December 1, 1864; Lieut. Clark Dunn, First Regiment, November 30, 1864; Lieut. J. J. Kennedy, First Regiment, November 30, 1864.

If all companies of the First Cavalry of Colorado, and the Eleventh Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, stationed at posts and camps near here, were ordered to report to me, I could organize a campaign which, in my judgment, would effectually rid the country between the Platte and Arkansas Rivers of these red rebels. I would respectfully request to be informed, if another campaign should be authorized from here, whether I could employ 100 or 200 friendly Utes (Indians), furnishing them subsistence, arms, and ammunition for the campaign.

I cannot conclude this report without saying that the conduct of Capt. Silas S. Soule, Company D, First Cavalry of Colorado, was at least ill-advised, he saying that he thanked God that he had killed no Indians, and like expressions, proving him more in sympathy with those Indians than with the whites. The evidence is most conclusive that these Indians are the worst that have infested the routes on the Platte and Arkansas Rivers during the last spring and summer. Amongst the stock captured were the horses and mules taken by them from Lieutenant Chase, First Cavalry of Colorado, last September; several scalps of white men and women were found in their lodges; also various articles of clothing belonging to white persons. On every hand the evidence was clear that no lick was struck amiss.

I am, with much respect, your obedient servant,

J. M. CHIVINGTON,
Colonel First Cav. of Colorado, Comdg. Dist. of Colorado.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Commanding Department of Kansas, Fort Leavenworth.

ADDENDA.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF COLORADO,
In the Field, South Bend of Big Sandy, Colo. Ter.,
November 29, 1864.

Messrs. BEYERS and DAILEY,
Editors News, Denver, Colo. Ter.:

SIRS: I have not the time to give you a detailed history of our engagement of to-day, or to mention those officers and men who distinguished themselves in one of the most bloody battles ever fought on these plains. You will find inclosed the report of my surgeon-in-chief, which will bring to many anxious friends the sad fate of loved ones, who are and have been risking everything to avenge the horrid deeds of those savages we have so severely handled. We made a forced march of forty miles and surprised at break of day one of the most powerful villages of the Cheyenne Nation, captured over 500 animals, killing the celebrated chiefs, One Eye, White Antelope, Knock Knee, Black Kettle, and

Little Robe [Little Raven], and about 500 of their people, destroying all their lodges and equipage, making almost an entire annihilation of the entire tribe. I shall leave here as soon as I can see our wounded safely on the way to the hospital at Fort Lyon for the villages of the Sioux, which are reported about eighty miles from here on the Smoky Hill, and reported 3,000 strong, so look out for more fighting. I will state, for the consideration of gentlemen who are opposed to fighting these red scoundrels, that I was shown by chief surgeon the scalp of a white man taken from the lodge of one of the chiefs, which could not have been more than two or three days taken, and I could mention many more things to show how these Indians that have been drawing Government rations at Fort Lyon are and have been acting.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. CHIVINGTON,

Col., Comdg. Dist. of Colorado and First Indian Expedition.

No. 2.

Reports of Maj. Scott J. Anthony, First Colorado Cavalry.

HDQRS. BATTALION FIRST CAVALRY OF COLORADO,
In the Field, December 1, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I left Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., with detachment from Companies D, G, and K, First Cavalry of Colorado, numbering 125 men, and two howitzers, joined Colonel Chivington's brigade one mile below Fort Lyon at 8 p. m. November 28, proceeded with his command on Indian expedition, in a northeasterly direction, striking Sand Creek at daylight of the 29th November forty miles from Fort Lyon, when we came upon a herd of Indian horses; was sent forward with my battalion to capture the stock. After proceeding about one mile came in sight of an Indian camp some two miles farther; immediately sent word to colonel commanding that an Indian camp was in sight, and proceeded with my command in the direction of the camp, which I reached just before sunrise. Found Lieutenant Wilson with a detachment of the First Cavalry of Colorado upon the right and south of the camp, and Lieutenant Dunn with a detachment of First Cavalry of Colorado, posted upon the west bank of Sand Creek, and opposite the camp, both commanders keeping up a brisk fire upon the camp; upon my nearing the camp upon the west side was attacked by a small force of Indians posted behind the bank of the creek, who commenced firing upon me with arrows. My command immediately opened fire upon the Indians, who had collected upon the opposite side of camp. Colonel Chivington coming up at this time, with Colonel Shoup's regiment, Third Colorado Cavalry, and two howitzers, charged through the camp, driving the Indians completely out of their camp and into the creek to the northward, where they took up positions under the bank and in holes, or rifle-pits, dug in the sand. The fighting now became general. The Indians fought desperately, apparently resolved to die upon that ground, but to injure us as much as possible before being killed. We fought them for about six hours along the creek for five miles. The loss to my command was 1 killed and 3 wounded. The loss to the entire command, 10 killed and 40 wounded. Lieutenant Baldwin, commanding the section of howitzers attached to my battalion, had a fine private horse shot from under him. Seven horses were killed from my command. The loss to the Indians was

about 500 killed, some 600 ponies, 130 lodges, with a large quantity of buffalo robes, and their entire camp equipage. The camp proved to be of Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians, and numbered about 1,100 persons, under the leadership of Black Kettle (head chief of the Cheyenne tribe). Black Kettle and three other chiefs were killed. All the command fought well, and observed all orders given them. We camped upon the ground occupied by the Indians the day before, destroyed the entire camp of the Indians, and then pushed rapidly in a southerly direction, in pursuit of Little Raven's camp of Arapahoes, reported to be on Arkansas River.

I am, sir, with much respect, your obedient servant,

SCOTT J. ANTHONY,

Major First Cavalry of Colorado, Commanding Battalion.

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *December 2, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I left this post (in company with Colonel Chivington's brigade) November 28 at 8 p. m., with 128 men of the First Cavalry of Colorado and two mountain howitzers. After a march of forty miles we found a camp of Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians and attacked them at daylight on the 29th. We captured from 500 to 600 head of stock, all their lodges and camp, and killed between 400 and 500 Indians. Our loss is 10 killed and 3 commissioned officers and 37 men wounded. The fight was very severe and lasted six hours. The dead Indians are strewn over about six miles. This has certainly been the most bloody and hard-fought Indian battle that has ever occurred on these plains. I have this day returned to Fort Lyon with the dead and wounded, and shall immediately rejoin Colonel Chivington's brigade, which is now moving toward the Arapahoe camp, on the Arkansas. The direction proposed to be taken afterward is to find the remainder of the Cheyennes, on Smoky Hill, and a band of Sioux reported to be in that neighborhood. The command will probably, fifteen days from this, be near Fort Larned, Kans., when I may be able to make more detailed report.

In the meantime I have the honor to remain, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

SCOTT J. ANTHONY,

Major First Cavalry of Colorado.

Lieut. A. HELLIWELL,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

I came to this post in considerable of a hurry. Told the adjutant to make the above report. Would have written more in detail, but for want of time. Am ordered to rejoin Colonel Chivington's brigade at once. Shall fight the balance of the Arapahoes before morning, I think. Colonel C. has a portion of the Third Regiment Colorado Cavalry with him. This regiment is 100-days' men. Their time expires in twenty days. We shall be greatly in need of troops when his command leaves. Our acting assistant surgeon has a large number of sick and wounded on his hands; too much for one good surgeon to attend to. Our present surgeon is incompetent to take charge of this hospital when no wounded are here, and has been so reported by the district medical director. Do try and send us a surgeon as soon as circumstances will admit.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SCOTT J. ANTHONY,

Major First Cav. of Colo., Comdg. Detach. First Cav. of Colo.

HEADQUARTERS FORT LYON, COLO. TER.,
December 15, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report, in addition to my last report, that I rejoined Colonel Chivington's command sixty-five miles below this post on the morning of the 1st instant, having left this post at 11 p. m. the day previous; found him encamped on the bank of the river, where we remained until next day at 2 o'clock, when we learned through passengers on the Larned coach that a band of Indians was only fifteen miles below us. The command immediately broke camp, moved down seventeen miles and encamped at a point where the Indians had been encamped the previous night. Remained in camp until 11 p. m., when scouts brought in reports of Indians fifteen miles below. Broke camp at 2 a. m. of the 3d instant and at daybreak came upon their old camp, which they had evidently left but a few hours previous, as was evidenced by their scattered lodge poles and cooking utensils, which were strewn along their trail for several miles. The Indians could not have been more than five miles in advance of us and were striking toward the head of Pawnee Fork, when we were ordered to return to the Arkansas River, where we lay encamped two days until our transportation came down, and were then ordered to return to Fort Lyon, where my command arrived on the 11th instant. Colonel Chivington passed the 10th instant en route for Denver, Colo. Ter., leaving Colonel Shoup in command. Colonel Shoup with his command passed on the 12th instant en route to Denver, leaving his sick and wounded in the hospital at this post. I am now of the same opinion that I was when reporting on the 25th November. I then thought that it would not be policy to fight these Indians who were suing for peace until there was a force sufficient to penetrate into their stronghold on the Smoky Hill and follow them up until they were completely humbled. I was attempting to keep those in this vicinity quiet until more troops could arrive, although I would not permit them to come within the post. Had fired upon several who had attempted it and had given strict instructions to the guard to permit no Indians to enter the post.

I am of the opinion now that the road and the settlements above us are in worse condition than before the arrival of Colonel Chivington's command. There was a force sufficient at the post to have totally annihilated the band that we attacked on the 29th at Sand Creek, but as I did not consider it policy for the present had delayed. I now regret exceedingly that Colonel Chivington's command could not have pursued the Indians farther. We were not to exceed from two to three days' march from the main hostile Indian camp, and, I think, with a force sufficient to have whipped them. The command must have had seventy wagons for 700 men. The weather fine for this season of the year; the proper time of year for an Indian campaign, and the moon in the right stage for forced night marches across the plains, and the Indians entirely without the knowledge of the increased force. I sincerely regret that so good an opportunity was lost to follow the Indians up. The Indians after they once commenced resisting us at Sand Creek fought with desperation. They evidently expected to be killed, and were resolved to do us all the injury possible before losing their lives. Some of them dug holes or rifle-pits in the sand where they would secrete themselves and fire upon us until they were killed. I saw at one time three Indians charge not less than 150 men. They came within forty yards, firing their revolvers and arrows until they were shot down. One squaw was attempting to escape with her two children when she was shot down, but before she died drew her knife and cut the throats of

her children. The Indians did not scalp our killed, but our men must have scalped 100 of theirs. One prisoner (half breed), son of John S. Smith, Indian interpreter, was taken and afterward killed in camp. One other prisoner, Charles Bent (son of Col. William Bent), was taken, and sent to this post, where he is now confined. The massacre was a terrible one and such a one as each of the hostile tribes on the plains richly deserve. I think one such visitation to each hostile tribe would forever put an end to Indian war on the plains, and I regret exceedingly that this punishment could not have fallen upon some other band.

The estimate is variously made at from 200 to 500 Indians killed, 130 lodges destroyed, with all their cooking utensils, and about 650 ponies captured, and about 200 buffalo robes. Of the ponies 407 were turned in to the acting assistant quartermaster at this post and afterward taken by Colonel Shoup to Denver. About 225 were run off from the herd toward New Mexico by some parties with the command, sixty were found seventy miles up the river and returned to Colonel Shoup's command. The buffalo robes were mostly used for our wounded on the field. None of them are, however, in the hospital now. I suppose they were all taken to Denver. I shall look with some anxiety for more troops to arrive, prepared to visit the main camp of the Sioux and Cheyennes. Until that time shall continue to furnish escorts and to protect the trains traveling over the roads until further orders. I now have five parties out on scouts or escorts. Indian signs have been seen within twenty-five miles of the post for the last two days. Indians evidently traveling north toward the Smoky Hill or trying to ascertain whether or not it will be prudent for them to molest the road for the present. They are evidently trying to ascertain the strength of this garrison.

I have the honor to be, sir, with much respect, your obedient servant,

SCOTT J. ANTHONY,
Major First Cavalry of Colorado, Commanding Post.

Lieut. J. E. TAPPAN,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. Upper Ark., Fort Riley, Kans.

No. 3.

Report of Lieut. Judson J. Kennedy, First Colorado Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY C, FIRST COLORADO CAVALRY,
Camp South Bend of Big Sandy, November 30, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report of Company C, First Cavalry of Colorado, on an expedition against the Cheyenne Indians:

In pursuance of Special Orders from headquarters District of Colorado, No. 132, of November 13, 1864, I left Camp Wheeler, Colo. Ter., on the 20th of November, 1864, with forty-two men of Company C, First Cavalry of Colorado, en route for Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., a distance of 240 miles, at which place I arrived on the 28th of November, 1864. I left Fort Lyon at 8 p. m. the same day with thirty-five men of Company C, under command of First Lieut. Luther Wilson, commanding battalion First Cavalry of Colorado. Made a march of forty miles to south bend of Big Sandy, Colo. Ter., at which place I arrived a little after daybreak on the morning of the 29th, where we

came upon a large village of hostile Cheyenne Indians, numbering from 900 to 1,000, which we immediately attacked, after which a general engagement ensued, which lasted until 3 p. m., and in which the Indians were defeated and nearly annihilated, after which we returned to the Indian village, which we helped to destroy, and then went into camp. I had 1 private (Oliver Pierson) mortally wounded (who has since died), 2 privates (August Mettge and John B. Calhoun) severely wounded; Sergt. M. H. Linnell, Saddler Elias South, and Privates C. J. Ballou, and William Boyles, slightly wounded. And I would most respectfully acknowledge to the colonel commanding the services rendered by my platoon commanders, Sergts. John C. Turner and M. H. Linnell; also recommend them for their bravery through the entire engagement.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. KENNEDY,

Second Lieut., First Cavalry of Colorado, Comdg. Company C.

[Col. J. M. CHIVINGTON.]

No. 4.

Report of Lieut. Clark Dunn, First Colorado Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY E, FIRST CAVALRY OF COLORADO,
Camp South Bend of Big Sandy, Colo. Ter., November 30, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report of Company E, First Cavalry of Colorado, on an expedition against Indians: On the 25th instant I left Camp Fillmore, with my company, pursuant to Special Orders No. 3, headquarters District of Colorado, dated in the field, November 23, 1864. I joined the column, then in the field, the same evening at Spring Bottom, thirty miles distant. I continued the march next day under command of Lieutenant Wilson, commanding battalion of First Cavalry of Colorado. We reached Fort Lyon, seventy miles farther down the Arkansas, on the 28th instant, about noon. About 7 o'clock the same evening I started from that place with eighteen men of my company, taking three days' cooked rations on our horses, and traveled in a northeasterly course till daylight next morning, traveling forty miles. At daylight we came in sight of a large village of hostile Indians (Cheyennes and Arapahoes), numbering 900 or 1,000, nearly two miles north of us. We immediately proceeded to the attack by moving down a small ravine and making a charge on the village from the north side, taking the Indians completely by surprise. They rallied immediately, and the engagement became general and lasted till afternoon, when they were utterly routed and half their number left dead on the field. We continued the pursuit till 3 p. m., when, our horses being much fatigued and our ammunition nearly exhausted, we returned to the village, which we helped to destroy, and then went into camp for the night. I lost no men killed, and but 2 wounded. Sergeant Jackson had his hip broken, and Private Mull was shot through the leg.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CLARK DUNN,

First Lieut., First Cav. of Colo., Commanding Company E.

Col. J. M. CHIVINGTON,
First Cavalry of Colorado.

No. 5.

Report of Col. George L. Shoup, Third Colorado Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD COLORADO CAVALRY,
In the Field, December 7, 1864.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to report the part taken by my regiment, Third Colorado Cavalry, in the engagement with the Indians on Sand Creek, forty miles north of Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., November 29, 1864:

I brought my regiment into action at sunrise. The first order given was to Capt. John McCannon, Company I, to cut off the Indians from their ponies on the south side of the village. This order was obeyed with great celerity and success. Captain McCannon captured about 200 ponies at the first dash, but being closely pressed by hundreds of Indians sent the ponies to the rear and opened a terrible and withering fire on the Indians, completely checking them, killing many and causing them to retreat up Sand Creek. Capt. O. H. P. Baxter, with his company (G), was sent to re-enforce Captain McCannon. The two companies then fought the Indians up the south side of the creek for about two miles. At this point many of the Indians took refuge in the banks of the creek, where they had prepared rifle-pits. Captain McCannon, with his company, remained at this place until late in the afternoon and was the last to leave the field of battle. His brave company killed 26 Indians in one pit and must have killed 50 or more during the engagement. Company G, led by Captain Baxter and Lieutenant Templeton, pursued the demoralized and flying savages to the south and west, killing upward of 20 Indians. Lieut. W. E. Grinnell, with a detachment of twenty-one men of Company K, fought during part of the engagement on the southwest side of the battle-field. This brave little detachment deserve honorable mention for their gallant conduct on the field. They lost one-fifth of their men in killed and wounded. At the opening of the engagement I led about 400 of my men up the north side of the creek and engaged the main body of the Indians, who were retreating to the west. I dismounted my men and fought them for some time on foot. At this point Captain Talbot, of Company M, fell severely wounded while bravely leading his men in a charge on a body of Indians who had taken refuge under the banks on the north side of the creek. Here a terrible hand-to-hand encounter ensued between the Indians and Captain Talbot's men and others who had rushed forward to their aid, the Indians trying to secure the scalp of Captain Talbot. I think the hardest fighting of the day occurred at this point, some of our men fighting with clubbed muskets, the First and Third Colorado Regiments fighting side by side, each trying to excel in bravery and each ambitious to kill at least one Indian. Many valuable lives of officers and men were saved by the bravery of others just as the fatal knife was raised to perform its work of death.

Early in the engagement Captain Nichols, with his company (D), pursued a band of Indians that were trying to escape to the northeast. He overtook and punished them severely, killing 25 or 30 and capturing some ponies. Other companies of my regiment fought with zeal and bravery, but after 10 a. m. the battle became so general and covered so wide a field that it became necessary to divide my command into small detachments, sending them in all directions to pursue the flying Indians. I am told by my officers and men that some of their comrades engaged the Indians in close combat. I am satisfied from my own obser

vation that the historian will search in vain for braver deeds than were committed on that field of battle. My loss is 9 men killed, 1 missing, supposed to be killed, and 44 wounded. Capt. Presley Talbot and Lieut. C. H. Hawley are the only officers wounded of my regiment, Captain Talbot in left side and Lieutenant Hawley in shoulder.

Inclosed herewith you will find copy of the reports of my battalion commanders to me.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

GEO. L. SHOUP,
Colonel Third Colorado Cavalry.

Col. J. M. CHIVINGTON,
Commanding District of Colorado.

No. 6.

Report of Lieut. Col. Leavitt L. Bowen, Third Colorado Cavalry.

SAND CREEK, *November 30, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose to you the reports of the company commanders of the First Battalion, commanded by myself, in the action of yesterday. I fully indorse all contained in those reports. All behaved well, each vying with the other as to who could do the enemy the most injury. This, I think, can truly be said of the whole regiment. I was in position during the action to see most of the regiment, and did not see one coward. Permit me to congratulate you upon the signal punishment meted out to the savages on yesterday, "who so ruthlessly have murdered our women and children," in the language of the colonel commanding, although I regret the loss of so many brave men. The Third Regiment cannot any longer be called in Denver the bloodless Third. From the most reliable information from actual count and positions occupied I have no doubt that at least 150 Indians were killed by my battalion. I cannot speak in terms of too high praise of the conduct of all the officers and men under my command. The war flag of this band of Cheyennes is in my possession, presented by Stephen D. Decatur, commissary sergeant, Company C, who acted as my battalion adjutant.

Very respectfully,

LEAVITT L. BOWEN,
Lieut. Col. Third Colorado Cavalry, Comdg. First Battalion.

Col. GEORGE L. SHOUP,
Commanding Third Regiment Colorado Cavalry.

No. 7.

Report of Maj. Hal Sayr, Third Colorado Cavalry.

CAMP, *December 6, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my battalion in the action of November 29, on Sand Creek:

Battalion consisted of Company B, Capt. H. M. Orahood, First Lieut. Charles H. Hawley, Second Lieut. Harry Richmond, and 64 men; Com-

pany I, Capt. John McCannon, First Lieut. Thomas J. Davis, and 53 men; Company G, Capt. O. H. P. Baxter, Second Lieut. A. J. Templeton, and 40 men; Company K, Lieut. W. E. Grinnell, and 21 men, making a total of 178 men. Company I was sent at the beginning of the action to the west of the field, where they remained during the day; much of the time sustaining a heavy fire from the enemy, who were secreted under a high bank on south side of Sand Creek. This company did good service in preventing the escape of the Indians to the west. Companies B, G, and K moved across the creek and went into the action on the north side of the creek and west of the Indian town, where they remained for several hours, doing good service while under a heavy fire from the enemy who were concealed in rifle-pits in the bed of the creek. The action became general and lasted from 6.30 a. m. until 1 p. m., when the companies divided into small squads and went in pursuit of the Indians, who were now flying in every direction across the prairies, and were pursued until dark. Both officers and men conducted themselves bravely. The number of Indians killed by the battalion, as estimated by company commanders, is about 175 to 200.

Casualties: Company B, Lieutenant Hawley wounded in shoulder; Private Manion wounded in thigh. Company I, 3 killed, 3 wounded. Company G, none killed or wounded. Company K, 2 killed and 2 wounded; making a total of 5 killed and 7 wounded.

Hoping the above will meet your approval, I am, colonel, very respectfully, &c.,

HAL SAYR,
Major, Comdg. Second Batt., Third Colorado Cavalry.

Col. GEORGE L. SHOUP,
Commanding Third Colorado Cavalry.

No. 8.

Report of Capt. Theodore G. Cree, Third Colorado Cavalry.

CAMP SKEDADDLE, *December 6, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report to you the part taken by the Third Battalion in the fight of the 29th November. They first formed on the left of the regiment in the rear of the village; then moved upon the right bank of the creek near one-half mile; then dismounted and fought the redskins about one hour, where the boys behaved like veterans. After finding that we had done all the good that we could do there, I moved Companies D and E (Company F having gone with Colonel Bowen's battalion) and moved to the right across the hill for the purpose of killing Indians that were making their escape to the right of the command, in which movement we succeeded in killing many. I then made a detail from Company D of fifteen men and sent them to capture twenty ponies, which I could see some four miles to the right of the village, but before they had reached the ponies some twenty Indians attacked them, when a fierce fight ensued, in which Private McFarland was killed in a hand-to-hand engagement. But like true soldiers the boys stood their ground, killing 5 Indians and wounding several others. The Indians finding it rather warm to be healthy, they left. The boys pursued them some eight or ten miles, and finding that they could [not] overtake them [returned], bringing with them the ponies they were sent for. I then returned with them to the

village to take care of the killed and wounded companions. Company E lost 1 killed and 1 wounded; Company F, 1 wounded; Company D, 2 killed and 1 wounded.

As for the bravery displayed by any one in particular, I have no distinction to make. All I can say for officers and men is that they all behaved well and won for themselves a name that will be remembered for ages to come. The number of Indians killed by my battalion is 60.

I am, colonel, yours, truly,

T. G. CREE,
Captain, Commanding Third Batt., Third Colorado Cav.

Col. GEORGE L. SHOUP.

No. 9.

Report of Maj. Edward W. Wynkoop, First Colorado Cavalry, of an investigation of Indian affairs in the vicinity of Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *January 15, 1865.*

SIR: In pursuance of Special Orders, No. 43, headquarters District of Upper Arkansas, directing me to assume command of Fort Lyon, as well as to investigate and immediately report in regard to late Indian proceedings in this vicinity, I have the honor to state that I arrived at this post on the evening of the 14th of January, 1865, assumed command on the morning of the 15th of January, 1865, and the result of my investigation is as follows, viz:

As explanatory, I beg respectfully to state that while formerly in command of this post, on the 4th day of September, 1864, and after certain hostilities on the part of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians, induced, as I have had ample proof, by the overt acts of white men, three Indians (Cheyennes) were brought as prisoners to me, who had been found coming toward the post, and who had in their possession a letter written, as I ascertained afterward, by a half-breed in the Cheyenne camp as coming from Black Kettle and other prominent chiefs of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Nations, the purport of which was that they desired peace, had never desired to be at war with the whites, &c., as well as stating that they had in their possession some white prisoners, women and children, whom they were willing to deliver up provided that peace was granted them. Knowing that it was not in my power to insure and offer them the peace for which they sued, but at the same time anxious, if possible, to accomplish the rescue of the white prisoners in their possession, I finally concluded to risk an expedition with the command I could raise (numbering 127 men) to their rendezvous, where, I was informed, they were congregated to the number of 2,000, and endeavor by some means to procure the aforesaid white prisoners, and to be governed in my course in accomplishing the same entirely by circumstances. Having formerly made lengthy reports in regard to the details of my expedition, I have but to say that I succeeded—procured four white captives from the hands of these Indians—simply giving them in return a pledge that I would endeavor to procure for them the peace for which they so anxiously sued, feeling that under the proclamation issued by John Evans, Governor of Colorado and superintendent of Indian affairs (a copy of which becomes a portion of this report), even if not by virtue of my

position as a U. S. officer, highest in authority in the country, included within the bounds prescribed as the country of the Arapahoe and Cheyenne Nations, that I could offer them protection until such time as some measures might be taken by those higher in authority than myself in regard to them. I took with me seven of the principal chiefs, including Black Kettle, to Denver City, for the purpose of allowing them an interview with the Governor of Colorado, by that means making a mistake, of which I have since become painfully aware—that of proceeding with chiefs to the Governor of Colorado Territory, instead of to the headquarters of my district to my commanding officer.

In the consultation with Governor Evans the matter was referred entirely to the military authorities. Col. J. M. Chivington, at that time commander of the District of Colorado, was present at the council held with these Indian chiefs, and told them that the whole matter was referred to myself, who would act toward them according to the best of my judgment until such time as I could receive instructions from the proper authorities. Returning to Fort Lyon I allowed the Indians to bring their villages to the vicinity of the post, including their squaws and papooses, and in such a position that I could at any moment with the garrison I had have annihilated them had they given any evidence of hostility of any kind in any quarter. I then immediately dispatched my adjutant, Lieut. W. W. Denison, with a full statement to the commanding general of the department asking for instructions, but in the meanwhile various false rumors having reached district headquarters in regard to my course I was relieved from the command of Fort Lyon and ordered to report at headquarters. Maj. Scott J. Anthony, First Cavalry of Colorado, who had been ordered to assume command of Fort Lyon previous to my departure, held a consultation with the chiefs in my presence and told them that, though acting under strict orders, under the circumstances he could not materially differ from the course which I had adopted, and allowed them to remain in the vicinity of the post with their families, assuring them perfect safety until such time as positive orders should be received from headquarters in regard to them. I left the post on the 25th day of November for the purpose of reporting at district headquarters. On the second day after leaving Fort Lyon, while on the plains, I was approached by three Indians, one of whom stated to me that he had been sent by Black Kettle to warn me that about 200 Sioux warriors had proceeded down the road between where I was and Fort Larned to make war, and desired that I should be careful—another evidence of these Indians' good faith. All of his statement proved afterward to be correct. Having an escort of twenty-eight men, I proceeded on my way, but did not happen to fall in with them. From evidence of officers at this post I understand that on the 27th day of November, 1864, Col. J. M. Chivington, with the Third Regiment of Colorado Cavalry (100-days' men) and a battalion of the First Colorado Cavalry, arrived at Fort Lyon, ordered a portion of the garrison to join him under the command of Maj. Scott J. Anthony, and against the remonstrance of the officers of the post, who stated to him the circumstances of which he was well aware, attacked the camp of friendly Indians, the major portion of which were composed of women and children.

The affidavits which become a portion of this report will show more particularly than I can state the full particulars of that massacre. Every one of whom I have spoken to, either officer or soldier, agree in the relation that the most fearful atrocities were committed that ever was heard of. Women and children were killed and scalped, children

shot at their mothers' breasts, and all the bodies mutilated in the most horrible manner. Numerous eye-witnesses have described scenes to me coming under the eye of Colonel Chivington of the most disgusting and horrible character. The dead bodies of females profaned in such a manner that the recital is sickening, Col. J. M. Chivington all the time inciting his troops to these diabolical outrages. Previous to the slaughter commencing he addressed his command, arousing in them by his language all their worst passions, urging them on to the work of committing all these atrocities. Knowing himself all the circumstances of these Indians, resting on the assurances of protection from the Government given them by myself and Maj. Scott J. Anthony, he kept his command in entire ignorance of the same, and when it was suggested that such might be the case, he denied it positively, stating that they were still continuing their depredations, and laid there, threatening the fort. I beg leave to draw the attention of the colonel commanding to the fact established by the inclosed affidavits that two-thirds or more of that Indian village were women and children, and he is aware whether or not the Indians go to war taking with them their women and children. I desire also to state that Col. J. M. Chivington is not my superior officer, but is a citizen mustered out of the U. S. service, and also that at the time this inhuman monster committed this unprecedented atrocity he was a citizen by reason of his term of service having expired, he having lost his regulation command some months previous.

Colonel Chivington reports officially that between 500 and 600 Indians were left dead upon the field. I have been informed by Captain Booth, district inspector, that he visited the field and counted but sixty-nine bodies, and by others who were present that but a few, if any, over that number were killed, and that two-thirds of them were women and children. I beg leave to further state for the information of the colonel commanding that I have talked to every officer in Fort Lyon, and many enlisted men, and that they unanimously agree that all the statements I have made in this report are correct.

In conclusion allow me to say that from the time I held the consultation with the Indian chiefs on the headwaters of Smoky Hill up to the date of the massacre by Colonel Chivington, not one single depredation had been committed by the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians. The settlers of the Arkansas Valley had returned to their ranches from which they had fled, had taken in their crops and had been resting in perfect security under assurances from myself that they would be in no danger for the present, by that means saving the country from what must inevitably become almost a famine, were they to lose their crops. The lines of communication to the States were opened and travel across the plains rendered perfectly safe through the Cheyenne and Arapahoe country. Since this last horrible murder by Colonel Chivington, the country presents a scene of desolation; all communication is cut off with the States except by sending large bodies of troops, and already over 100 whites have fallen as victims to the fearful vengeance of these betrayed Indians. All this country is ruined; there can be no such thing as peace in the future, but by the total annihilation of all the Indians on the plains. I have the most reliable information to the effect that the Cheyennes and Arapahoes have allied themselves with the Kiowas, Comanches, and Sioux, and are congregated to the number of 5,000 or 6,000 on the Smoky Hill. Let me also draw the attention of the colonel commanding to the fact stated by affidavit that John S. Smith, U. S. interpreter, a soldier, and citizen, were present, in

the Indian camp by permission of the commanding officer of this post, another evidence to the fact of these same Indians being regarded as friendly, also that Colonel Chivington states in his official report that he fought from 900 to 1,000 Indians, and left from 500 to 600 dead upon the field—the sworn evidence being that there was but 500 souls in the village, two-thirds of them being women and children, and that there were but from 60 to 70 killed, the major portion of which were women and children. It will take many more troops to give security to travelers and settlers in this country, and to make any kind of successful warfare against these Indians. I am at work placing Fort Lyon in a state of defense, having all, both citizens and soldiers, located here, employed upon the works, and expect soon to have them completed, and of such a nature that a comparatively small garrison can hold the fort against any attack by Indians. Hoping that my report may receive the particular attention of the colonel commanding, I respectfully submit the same.

Your obedient servant,

E. W. WYNKOOP,
Major, Comdg. First Colorado Vet. Cav. and Fort Lyon.

Lieut. J. E. TAPPAN,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Upper Arkansas.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF UPPER ARKANSAS,
Fort Riley, February 11, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to department headquarters for the information of the general commanding.

JAS. H. FORD,
Colonel Second Colorado Cavalry, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Saint Louis, February 28, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the army, through headquarters Division of the Missouri.

G. M. DODGE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Saint Louis, March 2, 1865.

The within papers and affidavits relating to the Chivington massacre are forwarded for the information of the War Department.

JOHN POPE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY,
March 6, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded to Adjutant-General's Office.

J. C. KELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
March 8, 1865.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

W. A. NICHOLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Sixth indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
March 11, 1865.

Referred to the Judge-Advocate-General to report what action can be taken to bring Colonel Chivington to punishment and justice.

By order of the Secretary of War:

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

COLORADO SUPERINTENDENCY,
Denver, Colo. Ter., June 16, 1864.

Maj. S. G. COLLEY,
Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.:

SIR: You will immediately make necessary arrangements for the feeding and support of all the friendly Indians of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians at Fort Lyon, and direct the friendly Comanches and Kiowas, if any, to remain at Fort Larned. You will make a requisition on the military commander of the post for subsistence for the friendly Indians of his neighborhood. If no agent there to attend to this deputize some one to do it. These friendly bands must be collected at places of rendezvous and all intercourse between them and tribes or individuals engaged in warfare with us prohibited. This arrangement will tend to withdraw from the conflict all who are not thoroughly identified with the hostile movement, and by affording a safe refuge, will gradually collect those who may become tired of war and desire peace. The war is opened in earnest, and upon your efforts to keep quiet the friendly as nucleus for peace will depend its duration to some extent at least. You can send word to all these tribes to come as directed above, but do not allow the families of those at war to be introduced into the friendly camp. I have established a camp for our northern friendly bands on Cache la Poudre, and as soon as my plan is approved by the military, I will issue a proclamation to the Indians. Please spare no effort to carry out this instruction, and keep me advised by every mail of the situation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. EVANS,
Governor and Ex Officio Supt. of Indian Affairs.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Denver, Colo. Ter., June 29, 1864.

Maj. S. G. COLLEY,
U. S. Indian Agent, Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.:

DEAR SIR: I inclose a circular to the Indians of the plains. You will by every means you can get the contents to all of these Indians, as many that are now hostile may come to the friendly camp, and when

they all do the war will be ended. Use the utmost economy in providing for those who come in, as the Secretary of the Interior confines me to the amount of our appropriations, and they may be exhausted before the summer is out. You will arrange to carry out the plan of the circular at Lyon and Larned. You will use your utmost vigilance to ascertain how many of your Indians are hostile, where they are, and what plans they propose, and report to me by every mail at least. For this purpose you will enlist the active aid of Mr. John S. Smith and his son, and of such other parties as you may judge can be of essential service. Mr. C. A. Cook reports to me that Mr. Bent has given you important information in regard to the plans and strength of the hostile combinations on the plains. Please be careful and report to me in detail all of the reliable information you can get promptly, as above directed.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. EVANS,
Governor of Colorado.

[Sub-inclosure.]

COLORADO SUPERINTENDENCY INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Denver, June 27, 1864.

TO THE FRIENDLY INDIANS OF THE PLAINS:

Agents, interpreters, and traders will inform the friendly Indians of the plains that some members of their tribes have gone to war with the white people. They steal stock and run it off, hoping to escape detection and punishment. In some instances they have attacked and killed soldiers and murdered peaceable citizens. For this the Great Father is angry, and will certainly hunt them out and punish them, but he does not want to injure those who remain friendly to the whites. He desires to protect and take care of them. For this purpose I direct that all friendly Indians keep away from those who are at war, and go to places of safety. Friendly Arapahoes and Cheyennes belonging on the Arkansas River will go to Major Colley, U. S. Indian agent at Fort Lyon, who will give them provisions, and show them a place of safety. Friendly Kiowas and Comanches will go to Fort Larned, where they will be cared for in the same way. Friendly Sioux will go to their agent at Fort Laramie for directions. Friendly Arapahoes and Cheyennes of the Upper Platte will go to Camp Collins on the Cache la Poudre, where they will be assigned a place of safety and provisions will be given them.

The object of this is to prevent friendly Indians from being killed through mistake. None but those who intend to be friendly with the whites must come to these places. The families of those who have gone to war with the whites must be kept away from among the friendly Indians. The war on hostile Indians will be continued until they are all effectually subdued.

JOHN EVANS,
Governor of Colorado and Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *January 15, 1865.*

Personally appeared before me John S. Smith, U. S. Indian interpreter, who, after being duly sworn, says: That on the 4th day of September, 1864, he was appointed Indian interpreter for the post of

Fort Lyon, and has continued to serve in that capacity up to the present date. That on the 4th day of September, 1864, by order of Maj. E. W. Wynkoop, commanding post of Fort Lyon, he was called upon to hold a conversation with three Cheyenne Indians, viz, One Eye and two others, who had been brought into the post that day; that the result of the interview was as follows: One Eye, Cheyenne, stated that the principal chiefs and sub-chiefs of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Nations had held a consultation, and agreed to a man of the chiefs and sub-chiefs to come or send some one who was well acquainted with the parties at the post, and finally agreed to send in himself, One Eye, with a paper written by George Bent, half-breed, to the effect that they (the Cheyennes and Arapahoes) had and did agree to turn over to Maj. E. W. Wynkoop, or any other military authority, all the white prisoners they had in their possession, as they were all anxious to make peace with the whites and never desired to be at war. Maj. E. W. Wynkoop then asked One Eye, he having lived among whites and known to have always been friendly disposed toward them, whether he thought the Indians were sincere, and whether they would deliver the white prisoners into his (Major Wynkoop's) hands. His reply was, that at the risk of his life he would guarantee their sincerity. Major Wynkoop then told him that he would detain him as a prisoner for the time, and if he concluded to proceed to the Indian camp he would take him along and hold him as a hostage for their (the Indians) good faith. One Eye also stated that the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Nations were congregated to the number of 2,000 on the headwaters of the Smoky Hill, including some forty lodges of Sioux; that they had rendezvoused there and brought in their war parties for the purpose of hearing what would be the result of their message by which they had sued for peace, and would remain until they heard something definite. Major Wynkoop told One Eye that he would proceed to the Indian camp and take him with him. One Eye replied that he was perfectly willing to be detained a prisoner as well as to remain a hostage for the good faith of the Indians, but desired the major to start as soon as possible for fear the Indians might separate.

On the 6th day of September I was ordered to proceed with Major Wynkoop and his command in the direction of the Indian encampment. After a four days' march we came in sight of the Indians, and one of the three Indians before mentioned was sent to acquaint the chiefs with what was the object of the expedition, with the statement that Major Wynkoop desired to hold a consultation with the chiefs. On the 10th day of September, 1864, the consultation was held between Major Wynkoop and his officers, and the principal chiefs of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Nations. Major Wynkoop stated through me to the chiefs that he had received their message; that acting on that he had come to talk with them; asked them whether they all agreed to and indorsed the contents of the letter, which he had in his possession, and which had been brought in by One Eye. Receiving an answer in the affirmative, he then told the chiefs that he had not the authority to conclude terms of peace with them, but that he desired to make a proposition to them to the effect that if they would give him evidence of their good faith by delivering into his hands the white prisoners they had in their possession he would endeavor to procure for them peace, which would be subject to conditions; that he would take with him what principal chiefs they might select, and conduct them in safety to the Governor of Colorado, and whatever might be the result of their interview with him, return them in safety to their tribe. Black Kettle, the head chief of the Cheyenne Nation, replied as follows:

That the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Nations had always endeavored to observe the terms of their treaty with the United States Government; that some years previously, when the white emigration first commenced coming to what is now the Territory of Colorado, the country which was in possession of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Nations, they could have successfully made war against them (the whites). They did not desire to do so—had invariably treated them with kindness, and had never, to their knowledge, committed any destruction whatever; that until the last few months they had gotten along in perfect peace and harmony with their white brethren, but while a hunting party of their young men were proceeding north in the neighborhood of the South Platte River, having found some loose stock belonging to white men, which they were taking to a ranch to deliver them up, they were suddenly confronted by a party of U. S. soldiers, and ordered to deliver up their arms. A difficulty immediately ensued, which resulted in the killing and wounding several on both sides. A short time after this occurrence took place a village of papooses, squaws, and old men, located on what is known as the Cedar Cañon, a short distance north of the South Platte River, who were perfectly unaware of any difficulty having occurred between any portion of their tribe (Cheyenne) and the whites, were attacked by a large party of soldiers, and some of them killed, and their ponies driven off. After this, while a body of U. S. troops were proceeding from the Smoky Hill to the Arkansas River, they reached the neighborhood of Scan Bear's band of the Cheyenne Nation; Scan Bear, second chief of the Cheyenne, approached the column of troops alone, his warriors remaining off some distance, he not dreaming that there was any hostility between his nation and the whites. He was immediately shot down. Fire opened upon his band, the result of which was a fight between the two parties. Presuming from all these circumstances that war was inevitable, the young men of the Cheyenne Nation commenced to retaliate by commiting various depredations, all the time of which he (Black Kettle) and other principal chiefs of the Cheyenne Nation was opposed to and endeavored by all means in their power to restore pacific relations between that tribe and their white brethren, but at various times, when endeavoring to approach the military post for the purpose of accomplishing the same, were fired upon and driven off. In the meantime, while their brethren and allies, the Arapahoes, were on perfectly friendly terms with the whites, and Left Hand's band of that nation were camped in close vicinity to Fort Larned, Left Hand, one of the principal chiefs of the Arapahoe Nation, learning that it was the intention of the Kiowas on a certain day to drive off the stock from Fort Larned, proceeded to the commanding officer of that post and informed him of the fact.

No attention was paid to the information he gave, and on the day indicated the Kiowas ran off the stock. Left Hand again approached the post with a portion of his warriors for the purpose of offering his services to the commanding officer there, to pursue and endeavor to regain the stock from the Kiowa Indians, when he was fired upon and obliged hastily to leave. The young men of the Arapahoe Nation supposing it was the intention of the whites to make war upon them, as well as the Cheyennes, also commenced retaliating as well as they were able and against the desire of most of their principal chiefs, who, as well as Black Kettle and other chiefs of the Cheyenne, were bitterly opposed to hostility with the whites. He then said that he had lately heard of a proclamation issued by the Governor of Colorado, inviting all friendly-disposed Indians to come into the different military posts and that they would be protected by the Government. Under these circum-

stances, although he thought the whites had been the aggressors and forced the trouble upon the Indians, and anxious for the welfare of his people, he had made this last effort to communicate again with the military authority, and he was glad he succeeded. He then arose, shook hands with Major Wynkoop and his officers, stating that he was still as he always had been, a friend to the whites, and as far as he was concerned he was willing to deliver up the white prisoners or anything that was required of him to procure peace, knowing it to be for the good of his people, but that there were other chiefs who still thought that they were badly treated by the "white brethren" who were willing to make peace, but who felt unwilling to deliver up the prisoners simply on the promise of Major Wynkoop that he would endeavor to procure them peace. They desired that the delivering up the white prisoners should be an assurance of peace. He also went on to state that even if Major Wynkoop's proposition was not accepted there by the chiefs assembled, and although they had sufficient force to entirely overpower Major Wynkoop's small command, that from the fact that he had come in good faith to hold this consultation, that he should return unmolested to Fort Lyon. The expressions of other chiefs were to the effect that they insisted upon peace as the condition of their delivering up the white prisoners.

Major Wynkoop finally replied that he repeated what he had said before, that it was not in his power to insure them peace, and that all he had to say in closing was, that they might think about his proposition; that he would march to a certain locality, distant twelve miles, and there await the result of their consultation for two days; advising them at the same time to accede to his proposition as the best means of procuring that peace for which they were anxious. The white prisoners were brought in and turned over to Major Wynkoop before the time had expired set by him, and Black Kettle, White Antelope, and Bull Bear, of the Cheyenne Nation, as well as Nevah Nattanee, Borcee, and Heap Buffalo, of the Arapahoe Nation—all these chiefs delivered themselves over to Major Wynkoop. We then proceeded to Fort Lyon, and from there to Denver, Colo. Ter., at which place Governor Evans held a consultation with these chiefs, the result of which was as follows: He told them he had nothing to do with them; that they would return with Major Wynkoop, who would reconduct them in safety, and they would have to await the actions of military authorities. Colonel Chivington, then in command of the district, also told them that they would remain at the disposal of Major Wynkoop until higher authority had acted in their case. The Indians appeared to be perfectly satisfied, presuming that they would eventually be all right as soon as these authorities could be heard from, and expressed themselves so. Black Kettle embraced the Governor and Major Wynkoop, and shook hands with all the other officials present, perfectly contented, deeming that the matter was settled. On our return [to] Fort Lyon I was told by Major Wynkoop to say to the chiefs that they could bring their different bands, including their families, to the vicinity of the post until he had heard from the Big Chief; that he preferred to have them under his eye and away from other quarters, where they were likely to get into difficulties with the whites. The chiefs replied that they were willing to do anything Major Wynkoop might choose to dictate, as they had perfect confidence in him. Accordingly the chiefs went after their families and villages, and brought them in; they appeared satisfied that they were in perfect security and safety after their villages were located, and Major Wynkoop had sent an officer to headquarters for instructions. He (Major Wynkoop) was relieved from command of the

post by Maj. Scott J. Anthony, and I was ordered to interpret for him (Major Anthony) in a consultation he desired to hold with these Indians.

The consultation that then took place between Major Anthony and these Indians was as follows:

Major Anthony told him that he had been sent here to relieve Major Wynkoop, and that he would from that time be in command of this post; that he had come here under orders from the commander of all the troops in this country, and that he had orders to have nothing to do with Indians whatever, for they heard at headquarters that the Indians had lately been committing depredations, &c., in the very neighborhood of this post, but that since his arrival he had learned that these reports were all false; that he would write to headquarters himself and correct the rumors in regard to them, and that he would have no objection to their remaining in the vicinity of Sand Creek, where they were then located, until such a time as word might be received from the commander of the department; that he himself would forward a complete statement of all that he had seen or heard in regard to them, and that he was in hopes that he would have some good news for the Indians upon receiving an answer, but that he was sorry that his orders were such as to render it impossible for him to make them any issues whatever. The Indians then replied that it would be impossible for them to remain any great length of time, as they were short of provisions. Major Anthony then told them that they could let their villages remain where they were, and could send their young men out to hunt buffaloes, as he understood that the buffaloes had lately come close in. The Indians appeared to be a little dissatisfied with the change in the commanders of the post, fearing that it boded them no good, but having received assurances of safety from Major Anthony, they still had no fears of their families being disturbed. On the 26th of November I received permission from Maj. Scott J. Anthony, commanding post, to proceed to the Indian village on Sand Creek for the purpose of trading with the Indians, and started, accompanied by a soldier named David H. Louderback, and a citizen, R. Watson Clarke. I reached the village and commenced to trade with them. On the morning of the 29th of November the village was attacked by Col. J. M. Chivington, with a command of from 900 to 1,000 men. The Indian village numbered about 100 lodges, counting all together 500 souls, two-thirds of which were women and children. From my observation I do not think there were over sixty Indians that made any defense. I rode over the field after the slaughter was over, and counted from sixty to seventy dead bodies, a large majority of which were women and children, all of whose bodies had been mutilated in the most horrible manner. When the troops first approached, I endeavored to join them, but was repeatedly fired upon, also the soldier and the citizen with me. When the troops began approaching I saw Black Kettle, the head chief, hoist the American flag over his lodge, as well as a white flag, fearing there might be some mistake as to who they were. After the fight Colonel Chivington returned with his command in the direction of Fort Lyon, and then proceeded down the Arkansas River.

JOHN S. SMITH,
U. S. Interpreter.

Sworn and subscribed to at Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., this 27th day of January, 1865.

W. P. MINTON,
Second Lieut., First New Mexico Volunteers, Post Adjutant.

[Inclosure No. 4.]

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *January 27, 1865.*

Personally appeared before me Samuel G. Colley, who, being duly sworn, on oath deposes and says:

That he is now and has been for the past three years U. S. agent for the Arapahoes and Cheyenne Indians. That in the month of June last he received instructions from Hon. John Evans, Governor and *ex officio* superintendent Indian affairs for Colorado Territory, directing him to send out persons into the Indian country to distribute printed proclamations (which he was furnished with) inviting all friendly Indians to come into the different places designated in said proclamation, and they would be protected and fed. That he caused the terms of said proclamation to be widely disseminated among the different tribes of Indians under his charge, and that in accordance therewith a large number of Arapahoes and Cheyennes came into this post, and provisions were issued to them by Maj. E. W. Wynkoop commanding and myself. That on the 4th day of September last two Cheyenne Indians (One Eye and Mainmick) came into this post with information that the Arapahoes and Cheyennes had several white prisoners among them that they had purchased and were desirous of giving them up and making peace with the whites. That on the 6th day of September following Maj. E. W. Wynkoop left this post with a detachment of troops to rescue said prisoners, and that [after] an absence of several days he returned, bringing with him four white prisoners, which he received from the Arapahoe and Cheyenne Indians. He was accompanied on his return by a number of the most influential men of both tribes who were unanimously opposed to war with the whites, and desired peace at almost any terms that the whites might dictate. That immediately upon the arrival of Major Wynkoop at this post large numbers of Arapahoes and Cheyennes came in and camped near the post. Major Wynkoop selected several of the most prominent chiefs of both nations, and proceeded to Denver to council with Superintendent Evans. After his return he held frequent councils with the Indians, and at all of them distinctly stated that he was not empowered to treat with them, but that he had dispatched a messenger to the headquarters of the department, stating their wishes in the matter, and that as soon as he received advices from there he would inform them of the decision of General Curtis respecting them. That until that time, if they placed themselves under his protection, they should not be molested. That the Indians remained quietly near the post until the arrival of Major Anthony, who relieved Major Wynkoop.

Major Anthony held a council with the Indians and informed them that he was instructed not to allow any Indians in or near the post, but that he had found matters here much better than he had expected, and advised them to go out and camp on Sand Creek until he could hear from General Curtis. He wished them to keep him fully advised of all the movements of the Sioux, which they promptly did. He also promised them that as soon as he heard from General Curtis he would advise them of his decision. From the time that Major Wynkoop left this post to go out to rescue the white prisoners until the arrival of Colonel Chivington here, which took place on the 28th of November last, no depredations of any kind had been committed by the Indians within 200 miles of this post. That upon Colonel Chivington's arrival here with a large body of troops, he was informed where these Indians were encamped, and was fully advised under what circumstances they had come into this post, and why they were then on Sand Creek; that

he was remonstrated with both by officers and civilians at this post against making war upon those Indians; that he was informed and fully advised that there was a large number of friendly Indians there, together with several white men who were there at the request of himself (Colley), and by permission of Major Anthony; that notwithstanding his knowledge of the facts as above set forth, he is informed that Colonel Chivington did, on the morning of the 29th of November last, surprise and attack said camp of friendly Indians and massacre a large number of them (mostly women and children), and did allow the troops under his command to mangle and mutilate them in the most horrible manner.

S. G. COLLEY,
U. S. Indian Agent.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 28th day of January, 1865, at Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.

W. P. MINTON,
Second Lieut., First Infantry New Mexico Vols., Post Adjutant.

[Inclosure No. 5.]

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *January 16, 1865.*

Personally appeared before me Lieut. James D. Cannon, First New Mexico Volunteer Infantry, who, after being duly sworn, says:

That on the 28th day of November, 1864, I was ordered by Maj. Scott J. Anthony to accompany him on an Indian expedition as his battalion adjutant. The object of that expedition was to be a thorough campaign against hostile Indians, as I was led to understand. I referred to the fact of there being a friendly camp of Indians in the immediate neighborhood, and remonstrated against simply attacking that camp, as I was aware that they were resting there in fancied security under promises held out to them of safety from Maj. E. W. Wynkoop, former commander of the post at Fort Lyon, as well as by Maj. S. J. Anthony, then in command. Our battalion was attached to the command of Col. J. M. Chivington, and left Fort Lyon on the night of the 28th of November, 1864. About daybreak on the morning of the 29th of November we came in sight of the camp of the friendly Indians aforementioned, and was ordered by Colonel Chivington to attack the same, which was accordingly done. The command of Colonel Chivington was composed of about 1,000 men. The village of the Indians consisted of from 100 to 130 lodges, and, as far as I am able to judge, of from 500 to 600 souls, the majority of which were women and children. In going over the battle-ground next day I did not see a body of man, woman, or child but was scalped, and in many instances their bodies were mutilated in the most horrible manner—men, women, and children's privates cut out, &c. I heard one man say that he had cut a woman's private parts out, and had them for exhibition on a stick. I heard another man say that he had cut the fingers off of an Indian to get the rings on the hand. According to the best of my knowledge and belief, these atrocities that were committed were with the knowledge of J. M. Chivington, and I do not know of him taking any measures to prevent them. I heard of one instance of a child a few months' old being thrown in the feed-box of a wagon, and after being carried some distance left on the ground to perish. I also heard of numberless instances in which men had cut out the private parts of females and stretched them over the saddle bows, and wore them over

their hats while riding in the ranks. All these matters were a subject of general conversation, and could not help being known by Col. J. M. Chivington.

JAMES D. CANNON,
First Lieutenant, First Infantry, New Mexico Volunteers.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 27th day of January, 1865, at Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter.

W. P. MINTON,
Second Lieut., First New Mexico Volunteers, Post Adjutant.

[Inclosure No. 6.]

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *January 27, 1865.*

Personally appeared before me Second Lieut. W. P. Minton, First Regiment New Mexico Infantry Volunteers, and Lieut. C. M. Cossitt, First Cavalry of Colorado, who, after being duly sworn, say:

That on the 28th day of November, 1864, Col. J. M. Chivington, with the Third Regiment of Colorado Cavalry (100-days' men) and a battalion of the First Cavalry of Colorado, arrived at this post, and on the 29th of November attacked a village of friendly Indians in this vicinity, and according to representations made by others in our presence, murdered their women and children and committed the most horrible outrages upon the dead bodies of the same; that the aforesaid Indians were recognized as friendly by all parties at this post, under the following circumstances, viz: That Maj. E. W. Wynkoop, formerly commander of the post, had given them assurances of safety until such time as he could hear from the commanding general of the department, in consequence of their having sued for peace and given every evidence of their sincerity by delivering up the white prisoners they had in their possession; by congregating their families together and leaving them at the mercy of the garrison of Fort Lyon, who could have massacred them at any moment they felt so disposed; that upon Major Wynkoop being relieved from the command of Fort Lyon, and Maj. Scott J. Anthony assuming command of the same, it was still the understanding between Major Anthony and the Indians that they could rest in the security guaranteed them by Major Wynkoop. Also that Col. J. M. Chivington on his arrival at the post of Fort Lyon was aware of the circumstances in regard to these Indians, from the fact that different officers remonstrated with him, and stated to him how these Indians were looked upon by the entire garrison; that notwithstanding these remonstrances, and in the face of all these facts he committed the massacre aforementioned.

W. P. MINTON,
Second Lieut., First Infantry, New Mexico Volunteers.
C. M. COSSITT,
First Lieutenant, First Cavalry of Colorado.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 27th day of January, 1865.

W. W. DENISON,
Second Lieutenant, First Colo. Vet. Cav., Actg. Regtl. Adjt.

[Inclosure No. 7.]

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *January 16, 1865.*

Personally appeared before me Capt. R. A. Hill, First New Mexico Volunteer Infantry, who, after being duly sworn, says:

That as an officer in the service of the United States he was on duty at Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., at the time there was an understanding between the chiefs of the Arapahoe and Cheyenne Nations and Maj. E.

W. Wynkoop with regard to their resting in safety with their villages in the vicinity of Fort Lyon, until such time as orders in regard to them could be received from the commanding general of the department; that after Major Wynkoop being relieved from the command of Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., the same understanding existed between Maj. Scott J. Anthony and the aforesaid Indians. That to the best of his knowledge and belief the village of Indians massacred by Col J. M. Chivington on the 29th day of November, 1864, were the same friendly Indians heretofore referred to.

R. A. HILL,
Captain, First Infantry, New Mexico Volunteers.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 27th day of January, 1865.

W. P. MINTON,
Second Lieut., First Infantry, New Mexico Vols., Post Adjutant.

[Inclosure No. 8.]

FORT LYON, COLO. TER., *January 27, 1865.*

Personally appeared before me Private David H. Louderback, First Cavalry of Colorado, and R. W. Clarke, citizen, who, after being duly sworn, say:

That they accompanied John S. Smith, U. S. Indian interpreter, on the 26th day of November, 1864, by permission of Maj. Scott J. Anthony, commanding post of Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., to the village of the friendly Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians on Sand Creek, close to Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., he (John S. Smith) having received permission to trade with the aforesaid friendly Indians; that on the morning of the 29th day of November, 1864, the said Indian village was attacked while deponents were in the same by Col. J. M. Chivington with a command of about 1,000 men; that according to their best knowledge and belief the entire Indian village was composed of not more than 500 souls, two-thirds of which were women and children; that the dead bodies of women and children were afterward mutilated in the most horrible manner; that it was the understanding of the deponents, and the general understanding of the garrison of Fort Lyon, that this village were friendly Indians; that they had been allowed to remain in the locality they were then in by permission of Major Wynkoop, former commander of the post, and by Major Anthony, then in command, as well as from the fact that permission had been given John S. Smith and the deponents to visit the said camp for the purpose of trading.

R. W. CLARKE.
DAVID H. LOUDERBACK.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 27th day of January, 1865.

W. P. MINTON,
Second Lieutenant, New Mexico Volunteers, Post Adjutant.

NOVEMBER 29–DECEMBER 3, 1864.—Scout from Warrensburg to the Greenton Valley, Mo.

Report of Capt. Murline C. Henslee, Company L, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. CO. L, SEVENTH CAV. MO. STATE MILITIA,
December 3, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your order I left the town of Warrensburg, Mo., on the evening of November 29, 1864, at 6 o'clock, in command of

a detachment of twenty-five men of the Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and Lieutenant Barkley and twenty men of the First Cavalry Missouri State Militia. I moved direct to Columbus, then to Hall's Mills, and encamped for the night. Next morning left camp at daylight; went direct to Big Grove, near the head of Greenton Valley, thoroughly scouting the grove through. Found no signs of guerrillas. Heard of five being in there a day or two before. From there I moved down Greenton Valley to Greenton; from there to Wellington and encamped for the night. Soon after arriving at Wellington we got on a chase after six bushwhackers, who went up the river; followed them three miles, then returned to Wellington, and met Captain Jackson, of the First Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and thirty men of his command from Pleasant Hill, who reported to me for orders.

The next morning, December 1, 1864, I divided my command into three squadrons. I sent Captain Jackson and thirty men, with instructions to thoroughly scout the brush and timber up the Snibar, and to meet me at night at a school-house three miles west of the Snibar bridge on the road leading from Wellington to Lone Jack. I also sent Lieutenant Barkley and twenty men immediately up Missouri River, with orders to meet me at Fire Creek bridge, twelve miles from Wellington, on the Independence road. I went up the Independence road to the bridge with the remainder of my command; crossed a trail of six guerrillas near the bridge. After meeting Lieutenant Barkley I divided our forces or command again and thoroughly scouted the Fire Creek settlement through. Saw but little sign and could hear of but six being in there for some time. We got two contraband horses and one mule in that settlement on the edge of Jackson County. We crossed over to the Snibar; went down until we met Captain Jackson and command at the above designated school-house, and encamped for the night. Next morning crossed to the south side of the Snibar and divided the command again into three divisions. Captain Jackson moved up Haw Creek south in the direction of Chapel Hill with his squadron. I sent Lieutenant Barkley and twenty men east to the edge of the brush in Greenton Valley, then to go south. Myself and the remainder of the command moved down the Snibar until we came to Greenton Valley. There we got on another chase after four bushwhackers; followed them up the valley and into the Big Grove and left them deep in the brush near Mrs. Welsh's, who is famous for harboring such villains. I left her a written notice to leave that settlement and county within ten days. I then went on, thoroughly scouting the country through to Chapel Hill, and there met the other scouts. They had seen five guerrillas in their travels to this place. I sent Captain Jackson and his squadron on south, with instructions to thoroughly scout the country between Basin Knob and Pleasant Hill, and return to Pleasant Hill; and next day I moved, with the remainder of the command, to Offit's Knob and encamped for the night. Heard of some six or seven bushwhackers being in that section of country nearly every day for some time past.

This morning, December 3, 1864, I moved from Offit's Knob to Hall's Mills; from Hall's Mills direct to Warrensburg, Mo. Arrived at 2 p. m., bringing in with me and turned over to Captain Ferguson, provost-marshal at Warrensburg, Mo., three contraband horses and one mule.

I am, major, your obedient servant,

M. C. HENSLEE,

Capt. Company L, Seventh Cav. Mo. State Mil., Comdg. Scout.

Maj. THOMAS W. HOUTS,

Commanding Seventh Cavalry Missouri State Militia.

DECEMBER 1, 1864.—Skirmish near Cypress Creek, Perry County, Ark.

Report of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry.

LEWISBURG, *December 2, 1864—10 a. m.*

CAPTAIN: Capt. Marvin M. Gates, Company C, Third Arkansas Cavalry, was killed yesterday skirmishing with the enemy near Cypress Creek, Perry County, nine miles from this place. Captain Gates with two men was in the advance and came upon five of the enemy, who left the road and took the bushes. Gates charged and fell. None of the enemy escaped. One of them was identified as the noted guerrilla Woods, formerly a resident of this place. Captain Gates was a valuable and efficient officer and formerly a member of the First Missouri Cavalry.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DECEMBER 1–3, 1864.—Operations in the vicinity of Waynesville, Mo. with skirmish (2d) on the Big Piney.

Report of Maj. John B. Kaiser, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST WAYNESVILLE,
Waynesville, Mo., December 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that a scout sent out from this post on the 1st instant, and which returned to-day, succeeded in killing 3 bushwhackers, by name of Lewis Williams, I. S. Williams, and Levi Clark, all formerly members of Company C, Forty-eighth Infantry Missouri Volunteers, and who deserted about the time of the raid. They were found about thirty miles southeast from this place on Big Piney, secreted in a cave. I inclose pass found on the person of I. S. Williams, which goes to show that they belonged to Campbell's company of guerrillas, who have been ranging in that country for some time past. I also sent a scout of six men on the same day in a northeast direction who returned yesterday and who succeeded in killing a bad character by the name of Charles Withers.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. KAISER,
Major, Commanding.

Capt. C. G. LAURANT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Rolla, Mo.

DECEMBER 1–5, 1864.—Expedition from Helena, Ark., to Friar's Point, Miss.

Report of Capt. George A. Willis, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY I, FIFTEENTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY,
Helena, Ark., December 5, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that in obedience to instructions received from General Buford, I left Helena on the 1st in-

stant with a detail of ten men and proceeded to Fort Rinney, where I was joined by Lieutenant Phelps with twelve men. We crossed to Friar's Point about sundown and remained there until 6 a. m. on the 2d, when we marched on the Sheriff Ridge road to Shufordsville and there captured Private William Allen, Thirty-third Mississippi Regiment; examined the post-office; found no letters. We then went to Doctor Killetren's, county clerk. It was reported that he had been absent two or three days. John Clark was not at home; I could not learn that he had collected any taxes and could find no funds in the house. At Mr. Clark's I ordered Lieutenant Phelps to take ten men and cross the bayou to Bobo's and with the balance of the command I went to Eugene Garth's. Mrs. Garth said that he had gone to Grenada to report and would return that night; told her to have him report at Friar's Point. Could not find the papers reported concealed. I then went to Hopson's; found Doctor Nasfliet; he was sick; did not take him. Joseph Hopson died about four weeks ago. Returned to Bobo's. Lieutenant Phelps reported that Bobo and Tom Glenn had escaped. He captured Captain Gibson, assistant provost-marshal-general, in the cane back of Bobo's house. We camped for the night at Fowler's. Returned to Friar's Point in the morning. Major Wayne, I learned, was on the Tallahatchie River. The following are the names of persons whom I ordered to report to Colonel Fitch, at Friar's Point: C. L. George, John S. Camack, P. C. Dickerson, L. P. Dickerson, E. J. Eastham, ——— Schonford, Dr. J. A. Peace, ——— Hamilton. We took from Frank Irwin's place a large bay horse which was tied out in the timber. I could find no maps of the county or State.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. A. WILLIS,
Captain Company I, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.

Lieut. LOUIS SOUTHER,
Adjutant.

DECEMBER 1–31, 1864.—Operations in Central Arkansas.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

Dec. 1, 1864.—Expedition down the Arkansas River to Pine Bluff.
6, 1864.—Expedition from Brownsville to Des Arc, with skirmish near Des Arc.
7–13, 1864.—Expedition from Brownsville to Arkansas Post.
16, 1864.—Skirmish near Dudley Lake.
27–28, 1864.—Scout from Pine Bluff to Simpson's Plantation.

REPORTS, ETC.

No. 1.—Itinerary of the Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Brig. Gen. Joseph R. West, U. S. Army, commanding.
No. 2.—Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade.
No. 3.—Capt. Gurnsey W. Davis, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.
No. 4.—Maj. Gilbert J. Hudson, Third Michigan Cavalry.
No. 5.—Capt. James G. Butler, Third Michigan Cavalry.

No. 1.

*Itinerary of the Cavalry Division, Seventh Army Corps, Brig. Gen. Joseph R. West, U. S. Army, commanding.**

FIRST BRIGADE, COL. ALBERT ERSKINE, THIRTEENTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY, COMMANDING.

December 1.—Colonel Erskine, with seventy-five men of the brigade, embarked as escort on board fleet going down the Arkansas River. Went on the boats to Prairie Landing, on White River, and disembarked; marched across the country to Pine Bluff, Ark., capturing 8 rebel soldiers, 16 horses, and 10 stand of arms. No other expedition of importance made by the brigade during the month.

SECOND BRIGADE, BRIG. GEN. CYRUS BUSSEY COMMANDING.

The troops of this brigade have been performing escort, picket, and outpost duty during this month. At different times detachments have been sent out on expeditions of special service of importance to the army and Government. The escort duty alone has been very considerable. The outposts south of the Arkansas River, including the city of Little Rock and the army proper, are picketed exclusively by this brigade.

THIRD BRIGADE, COL. WASHINGTON F. GEIGER, EIGHTH MISSOURI CAVALRY, COMMANDING.

The brigade has not moved during the past month.

December 9.—A detachment under Major McCartney, Tenth Illinois Cavalry, returned to camp from a scout in the country northwest of Searcy, between Little Rock, Ark., and White River.

December 23.—A detachment of 500 men, under Major Childress, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, which has been doing duty on the Arkansas River above Dardanelle, Ark., since the 21st instant, returned to camp.

FOURTH BRIGADE, COL. JOHN K. MIZNER, THIRD MICHIGAN CAVALRY, COMMANDING.

The Ninth Kansas Cavalry has been doing duty at Devall's Bluff, picketing and scouting. The Third Michigan Cavalry has occupied Brownsville Station, on the railroad, protecting the road and public property. Scouts from this regiment have marched south and east toward Arkansas Post, killing and capturing small parties of the enemy. Four hundred head of cattle were obtained by our scout. The Third Arkansas Cavalry is stationed at Lewisburg, actively engaged watching, and sometimes having small affairs with the enemy with creditable results. The Third Wisconsin Cavalry is stationed at Little Rock, and has picketed its approaches on the north side of the Arkansas River.

* From monthly returns.

No. 2.

Report of Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade.

BROWNSVILLE, *December 7, 1864—7.30 a. m.*

SIR: A detachment of the Ninth Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, fifty men, under command of Lieutenant Harmon, whom I had sent out for beef-cattle, had a skirmish on yesterday morning with a detachment of Adams' command, six miles west of Des Arc. We had 2 men wounded and 5 horses killed; 3 of the enemy were killed. A detachment of the Eighth [Missouri] Volunteer Cavalry, under command of Captain Langston, has just returned from Peach Orchard Gap. They killed 1 bushwhacker and captured Capt. Jeff. Allison and 5 horses. I would like to cross White River, as soon as Major Childress returns, and try and clean out McCray and Dobbin.

Respectfully,

W. F. GEIGER,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. Gurnsey W. Davis, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *December 28, 1864.*

SIR: I have to report my scout of 100 men in search of beef-cattle returned at 5 o'clock this evening, bringing in 78 head of cattle, 51 head of which were receipted for as follows, to wit: John Simpson (colored), 17 head, estimated weight 3,000 pounds, $120; Catherine O'Neil, 4 head, estimated weight 900 pounds, $36; John O'Neil, 6 head, estimated weight 1,800 pounds, $72; John Harvey, 4 head, estimated weight 1,000, $40; John Patterson, 5 head, estimated weight 1,250, $50; Henry Tompkins (colored), 7 head, estimated weight 1,400, $56; William Moore, 8 head, estimated weight 1,700, $68. I prevented as far as possible the driving of milch cows and work oxen. We met with no enemy to speak of except a few bushwhackers, three of whom we encountered on our way down and to whom my advance guard gave chase. I ascertained their names to be Kit Flyn, James Bloom, and John T. Brent. I learn they, with others of the same profession, make a kind of headquarters at the house of another man living on the river, by the name of Brent, a relative of one of the party. Upon such information I arrested Brent, also another suspicious looking man found at his house, and sent them to Pine Bluff by the fleet. Brent denied having seen Flyn and party since his (Flyn's) former capture, and in less than five minutes after my advance guard discovered them in ambush armed and apparently awaiting an opportunity to fire and then run, as they usually do. They fled as before stated. I also picked up one Confederate soldier and sent in with them. I proceeded down the lower river road as far as Henry Simpson's plantation, some twenty miles, where I camped for the night. Started on our return at daylight this morning, driving cattle as we found them. As my advance came in sight of McDaniel's, just below Richland, they discovered a woman run out from the house the back way and wave her bonnet, and upon such signal some men were seen running

from an old gin-house in the field. I rode up to the house and questioned the lady. She professed to know nothing of any men being concealed there or about her premises. I passed on to the head of the column and had but just reached it when my rear guard were fired upon by five men they discovered in the same direction of those seen by the advance and doubtless the same to whom the signal was made. The rear guard returned a few shots and the party fled back into the brush. Fortunately no one was injured of my men. I could learn of but one company (under a Captain Willis) of about forty men having been in that region of country lately. I think all reports of a large force fictitious.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. DAVIS,
Captain, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

Lieut. S. MONTE CAMBERN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 4.

Report of Maj. Gilbert J. Hudson, Third Michigan Cavalry.

CAMP THIRD MICHIGAN CAVALRY,
Brownsville, Ark., December 14, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to represent that, in pursuance of instructions received from your headquarters, I left camp on the morning of the 7th instant with Companies A, L, M, H, and K, and proceeded to a point four miles northeast of Jones' Island, where I remained during the night. From thence on the following day I proceeded by way of the upper Arkansas Post road to George's farm, twelve miles from Arkansas Post. Here I found that a sort of bayou or slough, extending east and from Bayou Metoe, was impassable, and on the 9th instant I proceeded to a point on the lower Arkansas Post road, fifteen miles distant from my destination, and encamped. On the following day, 10th instant, I proceeded to Arkansas Post with my command and remained in that vicinity during the 11th instant, sending parties along the river above and below, and scouting the country thoroughly in all directions. I ascertained that a Confederate force, 300 strong, mostly recruits from Missouri, under command of a Major Majors, had crossed White River at Crockett's Bluff, during the week previous, and had succeeded in reaching the opposite side of the Arkansas River without opposition near the mouth of Bayou Metoe on the 6th instant. I learned nothing of further interest in relation to the enemy, except that it was rumored that there were 700 or 800 recruits and conscripts for Price's army, of whom the 300 above referred to were said to be a part, in the northern portion of the State, awaiting a favorable opportunity to reach the south side of the Arkansas River. I captured 5 prisoners as follows: Private James A. Henderson, Third Missouri Infantry (Hood's army); Private William Gregory (recruit from Missouri to report to Shelby); Private A. P. Crowder, First Arkansas Cavalry (Price's army); Private G. W. Thompson, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Price's army); Dr. J. C. Miller. The latter claims not to belong to the service, but was taken under suspicious circumstances. The former claims to be a deserter from Hood's army. I also collected 400 head of cattle, and reached camp on the night of the 13th instant without loss or accident.

I experienced the greatest difficulty in procuring forage for my stock, and was forced at times to depend upon the dry grass of the prairie for sustenance for them.

G. J. HUDSON,
Major Third Michigan Cavalry, Commanding Detachment.

First Lieut. JACKSON ELMER,
Adjutant Third Michigan Cavalry.

No. 5.

Report of Capt. James G. Butler, Third Michigan Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY F, THIRD MICHIGAN CAVALRY,
Brownsville, Ark., December 19, 1864.

SIR: Pursuant to instructions from regimental headquarters I started south on the evening of the 15th instant with a detachment of seventy-five men from Companies F, E, and G, crossed Bayou Metoe at Eagle's Ford without difficulty, and camped at Smith's Mill, sixteen miles distant. In this neighborhood are from 3,000 to 5,000 bushels corn, principally in the field. On the 16th detached my command on three different roads leading south, concentrating before reaching Flyn's farm, near Dudley Lake, where I encountered a party of the enemy. Mortally wounded 1 and captured 3, together with the horses, arms, and equipments of the entire party. Camped on the premises, and on the 17th sent a patrol of ten men toward Dudley Lake, leaving Lieutenant Callender and twenty men with the prisoners and led horses to await its return and then move back to Smith's Mill. With F and E, forty-five men, I proceeded to Sommers' farm, five miles west, where I came upon another party; took 1 prisoner, with a rebel mail going south; also 4 horses, arms, and equipments, including those of a rebel lieutenant, who escaped to the swamp. Returned by a circuitous route and camped with the balance of my command at Smith's Mill. On the 18th sent ten men five miles west on Little Rock road, who joined me before reaching the bayou, over which I had to swim the horses and raft my wagon, it having risen some four feet in consequence of heavy rains. Returned to camp without a casualty. Distance traveled, eighty miles. I destroyed large quantities of forage at points known as the haunts of guerrillas, about forty miles distant and inaccessible to wagons from our line. The country is a low flat bottom land, heavily timbered, and frequently covered with water for miles in extent, with an occasional farm affording an abundance of forage.

Prisoners.

Howell B. Watton, private, Company G, First Arkansas Cavalry, dangerously wounded through the body; paroled and left.

C. S. Ray and Ira Sanders, privates, Company G, First Arkansas Cavalry; delivered to provost-marshal.

F. H. Flyn, private, Company F, Carlton's regiment; delivered to provost-marshal.

William C. Edwards, assigned to Messenger's battalion; delivered to provost-marshal.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES G. BUTLER,
Captain, Third Michigan Cavalry, Commanding Scout.

Lieut. JACKSON ELMER,
Adjutant Third Michigan Cavalry.

DECEMBER 1–31, 1864.—Operations against Indians in Nebraska, with skirmish (8th) near Plum Creek.

*Itinerary of the Eastern Sub-District of Nebraska, Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding.**

All was quiet on the road until the evening of the 8th, when a small party of Cheyennes attacked a train with eighteen men six miles east of post (Plum Creek, Nebr.), but were repulsed with a loss of 3 Indians; 1 man wounded, and has since died; the Indians withdrew to the bluffs. Captain Curran, with twenty-five men, was sent to the scene of action, and brought the train and wounded men to the post.

December 9.—Captain Ivory, with twenty men, was sent to scout in the vicinity of Lone Tree; found trail of Indians leading south.

December 11.—Six selected men, well armed and mounted, accompanied by a guide, were sent in search of Indian encampments. They traveled south about 100 miles; unable to find Indians; returned to post on the 14th instant.

December 13.—Captain Majors, with thirty mounted men of this command and fifty from Fort Kearny, moved southward across the Republican River to Beaver Creek; followed up that stream to point where Curtis' trail crosses; finding no Indians, returned to this station; absent five days; marched 165 miles. Daily escorts furnished overland mail coaches.

DECEMBER 3, 1864.—Skirmish in Perry County, Ark.

Report of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry.

LEWISBURG, *December 4, 1864—5.30 p. m.*

CAPTAIN: Lieut. Robert W. Wishard has returned from scout through Perry County; killed 1 lieutenant and 4 men of the enemy. Lost 1 man killed (Private McGhee, Company C, Third Arkansas Cavalry) and 1 wounded badly, of Company C, Third Arkansas Cavalry. The lieutenant killed belonged to Conly's company. Have his commission bearing signature of H. Flanagin as Governor and O. H. Oates, Secretary of State. Lieutenant reports many rebel families as moving south. He pursued Franz and Conly's companies twenty-five miles. Last heard of them they were going south fast as possible.

Respectfully,

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DECEMBER 3, 1864.—Skirmish near New Madrid, Mo.

Report of Col. John B. Rogers, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., *December 6, 1864.*

GENERAL: On last Saturday a small band of guerrillas passed up between New Madrid and Charleston. Captain Edwards pursued them

* From monthly return.

and killed and captured 2 more, with their arms and horses. There were about fifteen of them; the balance escaped into the swamps badly scattered.

J. B. ROGERS,
Colonel, Commanding.

Major-General PLEASONTON,
Commanding.

DECEMBER 4, 1864.—Skirmish on the New Texas road, near Morganza, La.

Report of Brig. Gen. Daniel Ullmann, U. S. Army, commanding U. S. Forces at Morganza.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., December 5, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that on the 4th instant, at about 1 p. m., my pickets near the new Texas road were fired upon by a small party of the enemy wearing the uniform of the United States. Joseph Crumb, private, Company G, First Louisiana Cavalry, was dangerously wounded. The enemy is seen every day at some point near my lines. I am suffering great inconvenience because of not having effective cavalry. The few horses my cavalry detachments have are broken down. A prisoner escaped from Tyler, Tex., came in last evening. He informs me that he judges that there are about 500 mounted men at Morgan's Ferry, where he crossed the Atchafalaya, and that he met squads of fifteen or more on his road in. Six rebel deserters who came in on Friday state that there is a detachment of some 200 at or near the junction of Red River and the Atchafalaya. A scout informs me that he learned that 1,000 crossed the Atchafalaya at Simsport last week. It is probable that some of these parties consisted of the same men.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,
DANIEL ULLMANN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant General, Dept. of the Gulf, New Orleans.

DECEMBER 4, 1864.—Skirmish with Indians on Cow Creek, near Fort Zarah, Kans.

Report of Capt. Theodore Conkey, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

FORT ZARAH, *December 6, 1864.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that on the evening of the 4th instant, just after dark, four men of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry, forming an escort to a six mule team and wagon loaded with ammunition for this post, were attacked by Indians while in camp on Cow Creek, fifteen miles east of this post, and the driver killed and one of the escort wounded in the arm. They had camped within thirty feet of the bank of the creek which at that place is twenty or thirty feet high, and while eating their supper the Indians crept up along the bed of the creek, within fifty feet of them, and fired under cover of the bank. From one of the party who was picked up by the stage which came along about four hours later, I gather this, that upon being fired into

the men dispersed, first firing several shots in return; that the teamster fled across the creek, the Indians in pursuit, where his body was found pierced with arrows and 100 yards or more from the wagon. Three of the escort made their escape and returned to Fort Ellsworth on foot, reaching that post at 3 o'clock in the morning. The fourth man composing the escort hid himself near by and remained concealed until the stage and escort came along, when he was picked up and brought to this post at 1 o'clock in the morning. I immediately dispatched a force of twenty-five mounted men to the place designated and there await the coming of daylight. As soon as it became sufficiently light, the country was patrolled for several miles around in search of the three missing men belonging to the escort, who were supposed at that time to have been killed. An overcoat was found half a mile from the camp, which was the only trace of them to be discovered. At daylight I sent out another party of ten men and a team to bring in whatever might be found by the party first sent out, which returned in the afternoon with the wagon and about half of the ammunition in good condition, and considerable in a damaged state. One horse came in with the stage belonging to the escort slightly wounded with arrows, and one was found dead upon the ground near the camp. The other two were probably captured by the Indians, and also the mules. The harness was cut up and portions abstracted. Last night Lieutenant Hutchings with sixteen men arrived at this post with the intelligence that the three missing men from the escort had arrived safely at Fort Ellsworth.

I would respectfully beg leave to suggest that the escort furnished at Fort Ellsworth, for the safe transportation of valuable ordnance stores, over a route known to be swarming with hostile Indians, was entirely inadequate. The loss of the stores may lead to serious results and disasters, while a neglect of proper care to prevent their falling into the hands of an unrelenting savage foe becomes a crime.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. CONKEY,
Captain, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, Commanding Post.

Lieut. J. E. TAPPAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF UPPER ARKANSAS,
Fort Riley, Kans., December 10, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to Maj. C. S. Charlot, assistant adjutant-general, Department of Kansas, for the information of the general commanding, and particular attention is called to the report of Captain Conkey, which says:

The loss of ammunition may tend to serious results and disasters, while a neglect of proper care to prevent their falling into the hands of an unrelenting savage foe becomes a crime.

B. S. HENNING,
Major Third Wisconsin Cav. Vols., Commanding District.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS,
Fort Leavenworth, December 15, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to headquarters, Washington, D. C., for information.

The apparent inadequacy of the escort furnished by the commander at Fort Ellsworth will be properly investigated, but may be mainly

attributed to a want of troops, which I am trying to correct by forwarding more force from those I have been using against Price's invasion.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General, Commanding.

DECEMBER 7, 1864.—Affair at the Moselle Bridge, near Franklin, Mo.

Report of Maj. Charles H. Gregory, Seventh Kansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF FRANKLIN,
Franklin, Mo., December 9, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I would respectfully report that an attempt was made on the night of the 7th instant to burn the Moselle Bridge on the Southwest Branch Pacific Railroad. When discovered by the guard from Company E, Seventh Kansas Cavalry, the incendiary was sitting on the bridge trying to kindle a fire with a brand which he had with him. He was fired on by the guard, six balls passing through him, causing instant death. The man was dressed in rebel uniform and could not be recognized by citizens in the vicinity.

Your obedient servant,

C. H. GREGORY,
Major Seventh Kansas Veteran Cavalry, Commanding Post.

Lieut. J. C. BRADEN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

DECEMBER 7–8, 1864.—Expedition from Devall's Bluff to Augusta, Ark.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, Ark., December 8, 1864—9 p. m.

CAPTAIN: Captain Swan, Third Minnesota, who left here yesterday morning for Augusta with 100 men on the Mattie, has returned, having met with no accident or loss. No organized force near Augusta, which place he left at 9 o'clock this morning, having surrounded it before daylight. The force under McDowell, of about 600 men, which was twelve miles above Augusta two weeks ago, has divided to go south. A part went northwest. The rest crossed Cache River. Dobbin with a very few men is east of Cache, and expects to organize on the 15th instant. He has promised the citizens that he will not molest a boat which may be sent up to Augusta to take their cotton. Such are the statements made to Captain Swan by all classes at Augusta. The people say they are in great need of salt and expect suffering. It was reported at Des Arc that Rayborne had a skirmish with Federal troops day before yesterday on Brownsville and Des Arc road.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. S. E. GRAVES,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Little Rock.

DECEMBER 8, 1864.—Affair at Tuscumbia, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. Theodore A. Switzler, Sixth Missouri Cavalry, commanding First Sub-District.

DECEMBER 16, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the 8th instant, 9 a. m., a party of rebels, some fifty in number, captured Tuscumbia, and disarmed and paroled some twenty-five of Captain Brown's company, Enrolled Missouri Militia, stationed there. The rebs were commanded by Capt. W. C. Clark, Missouri Cavalry, C. S. Army. The officers and men dressed in full Federal uniform, had papers and saddles marked Second Colorado Cavalry, and passed themselves as belonging to that regiment, went on south, and nothing further from them. Since I assumed command I learn that this party crossed the Missouri River near Rocheport and the railroad between Tipton and Syracuse, &c.

T. A. SWITZLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding First Sub-Military District.

Capt. J. H. STEGER.
Assistant Adjutant-General, Warrensburg, Mo.

DECEMBER 10–23, 1864.—Expedition against Indians in Central Arizona, with skirmish (15th) on Hassayampa Creek.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Capt. Allen L. Anderson, Fifth U. S. Infantry.
No. 2.—Capt. John Thompson, First New Mexico Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Capt. Allen L. Anderson, Fifth U. S. Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTHERN ARIZONA.
Fort Whipple, Ariz. Ter., December 28, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the 10th instant I started from this post on an Indian scout with Capt. J. Thompson and twenty-two enlisted men of Company K, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers. Messrs. Cooler, Weaver, James, Smith, and Rice, and a Utah Indian, named Dick, volunteered their services as guides and accompanied the command. The command was rationed for fifteen days. The middle trail to the Hassayampa was followed. This leads over the tops of the mountains in a southwest direction from Prescott. The ascent is quite steep. We crossed the summit about seven miles from Prescott and encamped at a spring about half a mile farther on. Found an abundance of wood, water, and grass. Weather clear and cold. December 11, descended the mountain in a southwest direction three miles, and entered a ravine leading to the south. Traveled down the ravine three miles, and then turned southeast over a rolling country for two miles, when we entered a cañada which drains into the Hassayampa. Descending it four miles, we entered the valley of the Hassayampa Creek, which we ascended half a mile and encamped near the Tanks. There is no running water in the bed of the creek at this point. Wood scarce. Water standing in the tanks. Grass on the mesas abundant and good. Half a mile above camp the stream issues from a deep cañon, inclosed by the highest peaks of the mountains. In a

direct line from the Tanks to Prescott the mountains are barely passable by a difficult mule trail. The range of hills west of the valley are low. On the east a high range (continuation of the Walker Mountains) stretches from the cañon at the Tanks, gradually receding from the stream as it runs south. December 12, descended the valley ten miles to Walnut Grove (Mr. Weaver's). The valley widens as it descends, and cottonwood and walnut trees abound in this part. The water rises a mile and a half above Mr. Weaver's. It has a volume of about thirty inches. The hills on the eastern side are low, those to the west rise into low mountains. Half a mile below Weaver's the stream enters a shallow cañon. Just below this point McLeod & Co. are working placer diggings, which yield about $1,200 a week. Indian tracks were observed on the way down, and on reaching Mr. Weaver's we were informed that the day before, the Indians having threatened to take Mr. Weaver's corn, the settlers in the neighborhood attacked them, killing 3 and wounding several. Wood, water, and grass abundant. Weather mild and clear.

December 13, the trail leaves the river, passing over the hills to the east and enters the valley again two miles below. We descended the river six miles and camped. The valley is of the same character as above at Weaver's. About a mile below camp the stream enters the Lower or Big Cañon. Rain began to fall in the evening and continued all night. December 14, rained steadily all day. Trail left the creek a mile below camp and crossed a hilly country for nine miles; course southeast. Here we found Indian trails. Here we turned up a ravine draining into the Hassayampa. The ravine is narrow, shallow, and rocky, inclosed by low hills of the same character. We ascended this ravine two miles, and half a mile to the left in a side ravine found water. The rain was very cold, and several of the party were suffering from rheumatism. Spies were sent out in several directions to look for smokes. Two of the parties were successful, and it was determined to attack the two rancherias simultaneously. One village lay about ten miles to the northeast and the other three and a half to the west. Our position was so well hidden by the surrounding hills and our fires were kindled so late that little fear was entertained of their discovering us. We were on the western side of a high ridge of granite hills, running parallel to the Walker Mountains, and about five miles from them. It rained incessantly, and as all the clothing and blankets were saturated, no one slept. December 15, Captain Thompson with twelve enlisted men and two citizens (Mr. Cooler and the Indian, Dick) left camp at 3.30 a. m. I left camp an hour later with eleven men and Messrs. Weaver, Rice, and Smith. A corporal and three men were left in camp. Both parties were on foot. Just at daylight we heard the firing of Captain Thompson's party. About twenty minutes later we attacked the rancheria we had been looking for. There were seven Indians in the rancheria. Three were killed; a woman and 2 children were captured, and one Indian escaped on all fours into the labyrinth of rocks, leaving a bloody trail behind him. These Indians had no animals nor fire-arms. They are Tonto Apaches. Everything in the camp was burned. Shortly after we reached our camp (10 a. m.) Captain Thompson and party returned. There were fifteen Indians in the rancheria he attacked; eleven were killed, and the remaining four left such quantities of blood on their trails as to show conclusively that they were severely wounded. Captain Thompson's report is forwarded herewith. The command remained in camp during the day. Rain fell at intervals during the day and night.

December 16, returned to the main ravine. Course for six miles over a hilly country to the divide between the Hassayampa and Agua Fria. This is near the southwestern point of the Walker range. In front of us was a depression separating the Walker Mountains from a low range five miles to the south. Between the latter range and the Gila there is a low flat country. During a clear interval the Mazatzal and the Pinal Mountains were visible through the gaps as well as the range between the Agua Fria and the Rio Verde. A deep cañon lay to our left which bore a little to the south. We crossed it, traveling over a rough hilly country in an easterly direction. Camped at an old Indian camp. Numerous quartz ledges were seen near the trail. Many of them could be traced all the way up the side of the mountain. This region gives every indication of being rich in minerals. It has never been explored. Several showers fell during the day. Distance from last camp about fourteen miles. December 17, traveled in the same general course for eighteen miles. Two miles from camp entered a large cañon running south of east. The main range from which it issues where we entered it forms for three miles its northern wall, for which distance its course is east. We nooned in the cañon. After traveling down it three miles we then climbed the left-hand side of the cañon, following the easterly course. Our road lay over rough foot hills of the mountains till within four miles of our evening's camp, when the country opened out. We camped in a shallow cañon with running water, plenty of wood and grass. Saw some Indian tracks three or four days old. No fires were allowed to be lit until night, as our route during the day gave us every chance of reaching camp without being discovered by the Indians. Sent out spies to look for smokes and signs but they were not successful. It rained, sleeted, or snowed almost without intermission during the day, and sleeted or snowed all night. Distance traveled, eighteen miles. December 18, descended the cañon east for three miles, then turned north for three miles over a spur of the mountains and descended into the bed of the Agua Fria. There is no water at this point. A mile farther up the valley we nooned. The valley is from 100 to 200 yards wide, bounded by sandstone hills or mesas, some of the cliffs of which present strangely curved and contorted strata that forms one of the strangest landscape features I have seen. It rained all the afternoon. Marched six miles farther up the stream (north) and camped. Total distance twelve miles. Found standing water, plenty of wood and grass. Tried to sleep in wet blankets for the fifth night.

December 19, the sky was clear at sunrise, but rain began to fall at about 8 o'clock and did not cease till 1 p. m. Marched north for about six miles and nooned at an old camp apparently made by soldiers. A mile above camp left the Agua Fria by a mistake of one of the guides and ascended Black Cañon. This is said to be the shortest route to Woolsey's, but I was anxious to ascend the Agua Fria all the way, in hopes of finding some Indian rancherias there was reason to believe were in that neighborhood. As our animals were too tired and rations too short to allow us to correct the error, it was determined to return to the fort as rapidly as possible. Ten miles from camp we left the cañon, ascending the north bank, and three miles farther on camped in the hills with a little standing water, a scarcity of wood, but an abundance of good grama. The night was clear and cold. December 20, three miles from camp descended into Black Cañon again at the Mexican town. We were in hopes of finding Indians there, but were disappointed. The Mexicans are accused of trading with them. Nooned

at Doctor Willing's camp, two miles above the village and near the east bank of the cañon. Camped without water in an open valley five miles northwest of the doctor's ranch. Fine grass and but little wood. December 21, our course was northwest to-day over a rolling country as far as Dripping Spring, five miles. Here is a steep ascent of some 300 feet. Beyond this to Big Bug the trail is over a hilly but not very rough country. Camped in a ravine about four miles east of the Big Bug. Water in holes; wood and grass plenty. Ground covered with snow. December 22, route northwest. Crossed the Big Bug Cañada four miles from camp. The trail is a tolerably good one from here to Woolsey's. Traveled through three or four inches of snow. Weather severely cold. December 23, returned to the fort by way of the direct trail. The men of our little command bore the hardships to which they were subjected with commendable patience, and showed praiseworthy alacrity in the performance of their duty. Captain Thompson and his men deserve praise for the discipline thus evinced. I desire to call the attention of the department commander to the valuable services of the citizens who accompanied us. Expeditions at this season of the year are destructive to stock and trying to the men, but I am satisfied that a winter campaign is the surest means of reducing Indians to subjection.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. ANDERSON,
Captain, Fifth U. S. Infantry.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Hdqrs. Department of New Mexico, Santa Fé, N. Mex.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. John Thompson, First New Mexico Cavalry.

CAMP TONTO, ARIZ. TER., *December 17, 1864.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report briefly as follows:

In obedience to your order of the 15th instant I left camp at 1 a. m. with ten enlisted men of my company (K), First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, Mr. Cooler and the Ute Indian (Dick) as Indian guides, and marched over the mountains a distance of about ten miles. At daylight in the morning I came in sight of the Indian camp and marched cautiously with my men and the two guides until I came within 300 yards of their camp. I then ordered the men to take off their boots in order to create but as little noise as possible and make a rush for the camp. Every man responded cheerfully, each trying to excel the other to see which would kill the first Indian. The Indians were not alarmed until the very moment the attack commenced, when they showed fight, but it was of very short duration, whereas they were shot down as fast as powder and lead would admit, and every man went into the engagement with a determination. The camp was composed of fifteen Apache warriors, 11 of whom were killed. The other four got away, but were badly wounded. They were trailed by their blood for some distance, but succeeded in getting off. After the engagement was over I destroyed their camp. Mr. Cooler and the Ute boy Dick (Indian guides), deserve much credit for the faithful manner in which they performed their duty and participated in the fight at the time of the engagement, and I would respectfully recommend them both as being faithful Indian guides and brave men. During the fight Private Brandon, of my company, got

slightly wounded in the knee with an arrow, which was the only casualty sustained on our side. After the work of destruction was completed, I returned to camp from whence I started, where I arrived at 11 a. m. Total distance marched, twenty miles.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. THOMPSON,
Capt., First Cav., N. Mex. Vols., Commanding Company K.

Capt. A. L. ANDERSON,
Fifth U. S. Infantry, Commanding Expedition.

DECEMBER 13, 1864.—Affair near Devall's Bluff, Ark.

Report of Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, commanding Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, Ark., December 14, 1864.

CAPTAIN: An independent picket, which I had placed three miles east of here, captured 2 enlisted men of Dobbin's command last evening. They report that Taylor's company, of Dobbin's command, is to rendezvous at Coffee Creek, twenty miles from Clarendon, to-morrow.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. S. E. GRAVES,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Little Rock.

DECEMBER 13-14, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to and beyond Morgan's Ferry, La.

Report of Col. John H. Kelly, One hundred and fourteenth Ohio Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. EXPEDITIONARY FORCES,
Morganza, La., December 15, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to very respectfully submit the following report, viz:

In obedience to instructions from headquarters U. S. forces, dated Morganza, La., December 12, 1864, I took command of the expedition composed of the Thirty-fourth Iowa Regiment, One hundred and fourteenth Ohio Regiment, one section of the Second Massachusetts Battery, and a detachment of the Second New York Veteran Cavalry, for the purpose of escorting and supporting Major Conover, Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, and his command in crossing the Atchafalaya River. The expedition moved from Morganza, La., December 13, 1864, at 8 a. m. and advanced to Morgan's Ferry bridge. At Cattlett's, a distance of nine miles, the column was halted for dinner and to await the arrival of Major Conover and his command, which arrived about 12 m., bringing with them four pontoon-boats for the purpose of crossing the river. Major Conover and Major Bell took a party and went forward from this point to the river to reconnoiter and select the point for crossing. I detached Lieutenant-Colonel Dungan, Thirty-

fourth Iowa, with them for the purpose of selecting a suitable position for the artillery and the disposition of the troops to cover the crossing after Major Conover had selected the crossing. It was arranged that the expedition would move forward within one mile of the river and halt until the place of crossing was selected and reported to me. Major Conover returned about sunset and reported that a crossing had been selected and that there were no rebel pickets near the point selected. About 7 p. m. I moved the expedition up to the river, stationed the artillery and disposed the forces, launched the boats and commenced crossing the command over at 8 p. m. The command to be crossed over consisted of 212 men, their horses, saddles, carbines, and equipments. The means of crossing were the four boats before mentioned, each of which took four men, their saddles, bridles, equipments, &c., swimming their four horses alongside the boat. The entire command was crossed over and in readiness to move, and moved off at 12 midnight. Major Conover and I agreed upon a signal by which I could recognize him or any of his command in case they were compelled to return to the river. I then had the boats all taken out of the river and put out of view from the opposite side of the river to prevent the enemy from discovering by what means the force had crossed over. I then gave orders to the officers in charge of the artillery to report to me anything that might occur on the opposite side of the river. At 3 a. m. Major Conover and his command returned and reported that he had moved with his command about six miles down the river, encountered an impassable bayou, had a man drowned in attempting to cross over it, and that he desired me to recross his command. At 6 a. m. the boats were again launched and the crossing commenced. By 11 a. m. the command was over, the boats reloaded on the wagons, and the entire expedition in readiness to move. In crossing and recrossing Major Conover's command no accident or misfortune of any kind occurred. We met no force on our way out, neither did we encounter any at the crossing. Major Conover captured one prisoner whom I forwarded to the provost-marshal U. S. forces. The officers in command of the regiments, detachments, and artillery rendered efficient aid and services. The officers and troops of the entire expedition rendered aid promptly when called upon, and conducted themselves in an officer like and soldierly manner. The expedition arrived at Morganza December 14, 6 p. m.

Respectfully submitted.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN H. KELLY,

Colonel 114th Ohio Vol. Infty., Commanding Expedition.

Brig. Gen. D. ULLMANN,

Commanding U. S. Forces.

DECEMBER 13–15, 1864.—Expedition up the White River from Devall's Bluff, Ark.

Report of Col. Hans Mattson, Third Minnesota Infantry, commanding First Brigade, Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Devall's Bluff, December 15, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in pursuance of order from the brigadier-general commanding division, I proceeded on the 13th instant on board the steamers Sir William Wallace and Kate Hart

with 400 infantry and 150 cavalry up White River. I disembarked seventy-five cavalry, Captain Flesher, at Peach Orchard Bluff, at 8 o'clock that evening. Also ninety-five infantry, Capt. O. F. Dreher, at Negro Hill, and ninety-five infantry, Lieutenant Armstrong, at mouth of Red River, the same evening. I landed with the remainder at the point eight miles below Augusta at 1.30 o'clock the same night. I then proceeded in person with seventy-five cavalry, Captain Goss, and seventy-five infantry, Captain Taylor, to Gray's Ferry, on the Cache, ten miles east of Augusta where I got possession of the ferry and crossed the cavalry before daylight. I stationed the infantry (Captain Taylor) at the ferry, and with the cavalry scoured the country east of Cache. I got as far as Widow Thomas' place before the people or soldiers in the country had any notice of our approach, but from that place notice was spread, and immediately after all the Confederate soldiers scattered in that neighborhood, under Colonels McCray, Dobbin, Jackman, and Freeman, took to the woods and bottoms, where I could not reach them. Captain Flesher, whom I expected to have met at or near the Widow Thomas', was unable to cross the Cache at all; therefore the programme as agreed upon at my previous interview with the general, and which would otherwise have been good and successful, was materially interfered with.

The certain information gathered is that Colonels McCray and Dobbin are reorganizing their respective commands, and were to have rendezvoused on the 16th at a place six or eight miles east of Gray's Ferry; that the neighboring country is overrun by small bands of rebel soldiers and jayhawkers making their way to the proposed rendezvous; that the country abounds in corn and cattle, all of which is being gathered by those forces; that the citizens are heartily tired of these rebel marauders and anxious to have the country held by the U. S. forces. I also learn that the forces about to be organized there will probably number 500 men, mostly unarmed and short of ammunition, and that the purpose of McCray is to move south, by way of Cotton Plant, in a short time. Failing to form a junction with Captain Flesher, and finding that I could act by surprise no longer, I returned to Augusta in the afternoon of the 14th instant, where I joined Captain Flesher, who had captured a number of rebel soldiers in the country called The Point. Lieutenant-Colonel Foster, who had remained in the vicinity of Augusta with the remainder of the infantry, captured a lot of contraband goods on their way from Memphis to the west side of White River. I am convinced that an extensive contraband trade is carried on at Memphis with that part of the country at enormous profits (such as a bale of cotton for a barrel of salt) to the parties at Memphis engaged in it. The articles captured were 10 barrels salt, 1 barrel pork, one half barrel molasses, which I learned had been smuggled through from Memphis by a party there named B. F. Leamice to one E. G. Donnelly, of White County, Ark.

On my return I left Augusta at 4 o'clock this morning, took on the troops at Red River and Negro Hill, who had captured some prisoners at or near West Point and at the salt-works. I learned that Captain Rayborne is in the country about White River, below Red River, and that the salt-works are being run per order of rebel General Shelby for the Confederate cause. This I did not learn till after I had returned below these works, or I should have destroyed them. We were fired into by a party of perhaps a dozen men (probably Rayborne's) six miles below Red River to-day, but no damage was done. No accident occurred during the trip. The officers and men all behaved with the

utmost promptitude and good order, and I deem it a great pleasure to testify especially to the energy, vigilance, and good and orderly behavior of the command of Captain Goss, Ninth Kansas Cavalry, which I had the best opportunity to observe, being constantly near them. We captured during the trip* 5 Confederate officers, 24 Confederate soldiers, 3 bad disloyal citizens, 28 horses of rebel soldiers. We also destroyed a number of small-arms found in the hands of rebel soldiers, and which we could not conveniently carry. Finding that the ferry on the Cache was used more by the citizens for their convenience than by the rebel soldiers, and also that it might hereafter prove of value to our own forces, I did not destroy it. The citizens of Augusta, especially the known loyalists, are suffering much at the hands of jayhawkers.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. MATTSON,
Colonel Third Minnesota Vol. Infty., Comdg. Brigade.

Capt. GEORGE MONROE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, Seventh Army Corps.

DECEMBER 14, 1864.—Skirmish in the Cypress Swamp, near Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Report of Col. John B. Rogers, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT,
Cape Girardeau, Mo., December 15, 1864.

GENERAL: Captain Tanner, commanding at Commerce, killed 3 guerrillas and took their arms in Cypress Swamp yesterday. One escaped. No prisoners.

J. B. ROGERS,
Colonel, Commanding.

General EWING,
Commanding.

DECEMBER 14, 1864–JANUARY 5, 1865.—Operations in the vicinity of Hermitage Plantation, near Morganza, La.

Report of Capt. W. Irving Allen, Thirty-first Massachusetts Infantry.

HDQRS. THIRTY FIRST MASS. VOL. MOUNTED INFTY.,
Hermitage Plantation, La., January 7, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of this command since my report of December 14:

Information has been brought to me that a small party of rebel soldiers was camping during the daytime in the canebrake behind the plantations on College Point and by night committing depredations along the coast. They had even gone so far as to take Doctor Trudeau, a highly respectable citizen, from his bed at night and with a rope about his neck try to extort from him money and valuables. On the night of December 14 I sent a scouting party from the company at

* Nominal list omitted.

Manning's plantation to find this camp. They found it just deserted, and captured but 2 prisoners. This expedition at least discovered and broke up their hiding-place, and for some time they did not appear again on the coast. Soon after this I learned that at an obscure settlement on Black Bayou, between New and Amite Rivers, a number of men from Doyal's and Gonzales' companies had a rendezvous where they lay in safety while we were scouting the ordinary roads and whence they came at other times to make conscriptions and plunder about the lower end of New River. This place is known as Seals Point, and I had much difficulty in finding a guide to it, as it was away from all the commonly used roads and no Federal scout had ever been there. On the night of December 17 I had a party of thirty men organized under three guides and sent them under Capt. L. C. Howell to explore the terra incognita. They marched all night, crossing New River at Baptiste Laundry's bridge and Black Bayou, about four miles beyond, over roads almost impassable, and reached the place just before daylight. Taking immediate possession of every house, they found concealed in various places five soldiers and brought them in the next day. The same night I sent another party to scout the upper end of the New River country between the Dutch Stores and Hampton's Ferry, on Bayou Manchac. They brought in 2 prisoners on the next day. Both of these men were noted characters, being Confederate soldiers who had joined a jayhawking gang under the lead of one John King. Their robberies had for some time made the common roads in that region a terror even to peaceable travelers. It is only within the last few days that this gang has been heard from since. Both the scouting parties on this night were instructed by what different roads to go and return, and in this way almost the whole of the country on this side of Amite River was scoured in a night.

On the night of the 18th I received information that a body of 150 men, under Doyal, would start that morning from Livingston Parish, cross Amite River at some of the lower ferries, and come in to sweep the New River settlements and upper coast plantations. I determined to meet them, if possible, in time to defeat their object, and accordingly took the available strength of the command to the lower end of New River. Calculating that they must first appear on the lower end of New River I posted my main force near the Baptist church, picketed all the bridges, and sent small reconnoitering parties toward Amite River. These captured 2 prisoners, and brought word that no force had yet appeared on Amite River. Determining to watch for them still longer I sent one company to each of the ferries where they might be expected, viz, at the French settlement at Scivique's, McGill's, and Hampton's Ferries. During the night a small party appeared at Scivique's Ferry, reconnoitered the crossing, and went away. I believe the information on which I acted was premature, but that our movement prevented them from crossing later, as such a force did appear two days after on the Amite, near the French settlement, and after remaining a day or two went away, apparently fearing to cross. Since that time no important scouts have been made. One effect of our work, I think, has since been seen in the number of rebel soldiers who have come into our lines voluntarily and applied to take the oath of allegiance. Since December 22 eleven men of this description have been sent by me to the provost-marshal at Donaldsonville to take the oath under the President's amnesty proclamation. They are citizens of the New River country, and came from the various commands with Scott. On the night of January 2 a small scout from our lower company captured 1

prisoner near Whitehall saw-mill. He had been inside our lines for several days trying to procure a horse, clothes, and supplies. On the night of January 4 another party from the same company lay concealed by one of the fords on Bayou Conway, and captured 4 prisoners while crossing the bayou. These men were also coming in to procure themselves clothing and supplies for another campaign. I am inclined to treat such men as spies. They come into our camps with borrowed oaths of allegiance in their possession, inspect our numbers and position, converse freely with our soldiers, and go out possessed of such information as we can only obtain from spies. On the night of January 5 a small scouting party near the Dutch Stores captured a load of provisions being taken to cross Amite River, and without any military permits. I ascertained from whom the provisions were purchased, arrested the man, and shall send him with charges to the provost-marshal-general's department. The number of prisoners captured by this command up to this date is 21, 20 of whom have been sent to New Orleans, and 1 sick man paroled for twenty days. No horses or men have yet been lost on any of the scouts.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. I. ALLEN,
Captain, Commanding.

Capt. FREDERIC SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Defenses of New Orleans

DECEMBER 16–19, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to the Atchafalaya River, La.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Henry N. Frisbie, Ninety-second U. S. Colored Infantry, commanding expedition.
No. 2.—Maj. Francis A. Sears, Sixty-seventh Indiana Infantry.
No. 3.—Capt. Benjamin J. Summers, Twenty-fourth Indiana Infantry.
No. 4.—Lieut. William H. Posey, Twenty-fourth Indiana Infantry.
No. 5.—Lieut. Thomas Ledwick, Second New York Veteran Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. Henry N. Frisbie, Ninety-second U. S. Colored Infantry, commanding expedition.

HEADQUARTERS NINETY-SECOND U. S. INFANTRY,
Morganza, La., December 18, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to announce my safe arrival with my command, and submit the following report:

The plan as laid down in your paragraph III of instructions to Colonel Spicely was strictly complied with. In the part therein assigned to me which was executed without accident, I passed the house of Doctor Smith, near whose residence Acting Master Thatcher was murdered, but nothing was disturbed, and no halt was made longer than to catch several horses and mules that were near the place. Near here we also passed the new house of Mr. Parr, who was driven from near our picket line. One reason why no investigation was made of the premises of Doctor Smith was from a misunderstanding of the instructions, as I supposed the gunboats were to do the heavy work, and another was that I discovered a

number of horsemen moving rapidly on the main road, which had the appearance of having had quite a number of large wagons just passed over it. Who or what they were I could not learn. The horsemen were found to belong to the organized band of guerrilla scouts operating on this side of the Atchafalaya River. At Bayou Latenache I was joined by Colonel Spicely and command, who directed me to proceed with my command out Bayou Letsworth and exercise my discretion, which I did, moving rapidly and soon came in sight of horsemen, who proved to belong to Collins' band, but he, with some of his men, I learned from undoubted authority, had gone the day before across the Atchafalaya River, bound for Alexandria. These men continued in sight most of the afternoon and twice fired at the advance guard. We camped at the plantation of J. R. Gayle, whose son is a member of Collins' band, and who was on picket at the door, and who fired at the advance guard and then fled into the swamp on the bayou. A large number of hogs and chickens were here gathered for the purpose of giving our boys a big Christmas, so they were appropriated as contraband of war. I then, at daylight the next morning, moved through the swamp to the mouth of Red River and here sent Lieutenant Whitney, my acting quartermaster, to inform the gun-boats who we were, so they would not fire upon us, and then moved the command along Old River opposite to Turnbull Island. I saw him go down the river-bank, and have not seen or heard from him since. Sergeant Darrow, of Company B, Second New York Veteran Cavalry, accompanied him. I afterward learned a party of eighteen mounted men had just passed down that road just previous to my coming upon it, so I have good reason to believe they were captured on their return.

On arriving at the mouth of the Atchafalaya I discovered a large mounted picket of the Twenty-third Texas Cavalry on the opposite side, and when I commenced to fire upon them they rapidly withdrew and formed in line beyond range, and on showing a disposition to cross over they displayed an infantry force of several hundred men and wagons moving behind the woods from Simsport, might have been artillery, although I had from pretty reliable information that they have none this side of Evergreen, which is situated at the junction of Bayou Rouge and Bayou de Glaise, which I am inclined to think is named on my map as Moreauville. Particular pains were taken to investigate the premises of a Mr. Barbre and fix his status, and he was found to be a noted rebel. Several boats lay upon the opposite side of the Atchafalaya and one on this side, probably used for crossing. In returning we came through the swamp to the residence of Mr. Winston, an outlaw, whose wife now keeps a rendezvous for guerrillas, and after giving her some valuable instructions she inquired if that was to be the new way to restore the Union, and was told that a perseverance in her evil courses would leave her homeless. She acquiesced in the arrangement and said, forewarned was forearmed. Miss Carpenter is teaching her children. We camped again at Mr. Gayle's. During the night I received information from Mr. Robie, who lives near there, that I might expect an attack on my return, and from an evident movement in considerable force of the enemy around my camp during the night I believed it to be true, so I started two hours before day, but none was made, although some horsemen were seen. A small force of the enemy was in sight all the way down Old River, and their pursuit did not cease until we reached the Mississippi. I saw a log wagon which would be valuable at your saw-mill. I did not bring it for the want of transportation. I believe the large number of able-bodied colored men seen

on former occasions have been sent to Bayou Latenache and have their habitations moved to the woods in the rear of the plantations. I obtained such information as leads me to believe colored regiments are being organized at Alexandria. I desire to express my approval of the spirit and courage of my troops, and whenever there was any indication of meeting the enemy their conduct pleased me. They will fight and sell their lives dearly, and their worth I believe is in proportion to the courage, discipline, and efficiency of the officers.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. N. FRISBIE,
Colonel of Ninety-second Infantry, Commanding Expedition.

Lieut. O. A. RICE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Francis A. Sears, Sixty-seventh Indiana Infantry.

HDQRS. SIXTY-SEVENTH REGT. IND. INFTY. VOLS.,
Morganza, La., December 19, 1864.

SIR: Agreeable to instructions from Colonel Spicely, commanding brigade, I have the honor to submit the following report of the Sixty-seventh Indiana Infantry Volunteers in the late expedition up Old River:

On the morning of the 16th instant I took my regiment on board the steamer Starlight at 4 a. m.; proceeding up the Mississippi River to Hog Point, La., I put one company on shore to cover the landing of troops from the steamer Ada May. I then proceeded with my regiment to the mouth of Old River; went up the same to a point near Port Williams, at which place I debarked. We marched down on the right bank of said river about six miles, where we camped for the night. My command here foraged off the country, collecting such things as were needed by the troops. On the morning of the 17th instant I sent a detail of one commissioned officer and thirty men to Raskasee Island; said detail collected 15 head of beef-cattle, 7 horses, and 30 head of sheep. About 2 o'clock of the 17th my regiment, excepting the aforesaid detail, which returned on the steamer Starlight, marched back to this point, reaching here about 6 p. m. of the 17th instant. The surplus stock captured on the expedition was turned over to the post quartermaster, all of which is respectfully submitted.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. SEARS,
Major, Commanding Sixty-seventh Indiana Volunteers.

Lieut. OSCAR A. RICE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. Benjamin J. Summers, Twenty-fourth Indiana Infantry.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFTY.,
Morganza, La., December 19, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to herewith transmit to you my report of the part taken by the Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry on the

late expedition from this point. It moved on the morning of the 15th instant in connection with the Sixty-seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry on board transport steamer Starlight, and arrived at Williamsport on Old River at 2 p. m.; disembarked and moved down Old River five miles, and went into camp for the night. On the morning of the 16th I sent out a detail of thirty men, in charge of a captain, for the purpose of collecting forage. The foraging party returned at 1 p. m. At 4 p. m. I received orders from Colonel Spicely, commanding the expedition, to proceed to Morganza. Arrived at Morganza at 9 p. m. The conduct of the officers and men of my command was soldierly throughout the entire expedition.

Respectfully submitted.

B. J. SUMMERS,
Capt., Comdg. Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

Capt. J. G. DUNLAP,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Brig., Reserve Corps.

No. 4.

Report of Lieut. William H. Posey, Twenty-fourth Indiana Infantry.

OFFICE R. Q. M. TWENTY-FOURTH IND. INFTY. VOLS.,
Morganza, La., December 19, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following disposition made of the property captured by the U. S. forces on Old River, December 16, 1864, and placed in my charge. I turned in to Capt. D. A. Ward, acting assistant quartermaster, 9 horses and 6 mules, and to Captain Whittlesey, commissary of subsistence, 27 head of beef-cattle and 9 barrels of molasses.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. POSEY,
First Lieut. and R. Q. M. Twenty-fourth Ind. Vol. Infantry.

Capt. J. G. DUNLAP,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Brig., Reserve Corps.

No. 5.

Report of Lieut. Thomas Ledwick, Second New York Veteran Cavalry.

CAMP SECOND NEW YORK VETERAN CAVALRY,
Morganza, La., December 20, 1864.

COLONEL: In compliance with your orders on the morning of the 17th instant, I proceeded down the Old River road, taking all the horses and mules that in my opinion was serviceable. Near the line of march captured 19 horses and 7 mules. Turned them in to D. A. Ward, post quartermaster. Arrived in camp 5 o'clock same day.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS LEDWICK,
Lieut., Comdg. Detach. Second New York Vet. Cavalry.

Colonel SPICELY.

DECEMBER 18, 1864.—Skirmish on Little River, in New Madrid County, Mo.

Report of Col. John B. Rogers, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, *December 20, 1864.*

GENERAL: A band of guerrillas made their appearance near Benton on the 18th instant stealing horses. Captain Tanner, of Commerce, Enrolled Missouri Militia, with twenty men, pursued to Little River, thirty-five miles, and killed 1, and recaptured 2 of the stolen horses. The balance scattered and escaped.

J. B. ROGERS,
Colonel, Commanding.

General EWING,
Commanding.

DECEMBER 20, 1864–JANUARY 4, 1865.—Expeditions from Cape Girardeau and Dallas, Mo., to Cherokee Bay, Ark., and the Saint Francis River, with skirmishes.

Report of Col. John B. Rogers, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. SECOND SUB-DISTRICT, SAINT LOUIS DISTRICT,
Cape Girardeau, Mo., January 4, 1865.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the 20th ultimo I ordered Maj. Josephus Robbins, Second Cavalry Missouri State Militia, with a detachment of thirty men of the Second Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and Lieutenant Rinne, with a detachment of Battery C, Second Missouri Artillery, to move from this post to Bloomfield with fifteen days' small rations, with instructions to search for the enemy in the direction of Cherokee Bay, Ark., where he was reported in force. The expedition arrived at Bloomfield on the evening of the 22d, when they ascertained that by reason of late heavy rains the Saint Francis River was impassable, and they were compelled to remain at Bloomfield some two or three days. Information having been received from the commanding officer of the Saint Louis District that a quantity of arms were secreted on Horse Island near the Arkansas line, I ordered Major Robbins to proceed there at once with his command and fifty men from the post of Bloomfield, being detachments of Second Cavalry Missouri State Militia, and sixth months' volunteers, Enrolled Missouri Militia, making the whole strength of the command 100 men. The expedition met with but little resistance, and having thoroughly searched Horse Island and scoured the country thereabout, finding neither arms nor ammunition, returned to Bloomfield, having killed 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 6 men, capturing 1 prisoner and 20 horses, with no casualty on our side. In the meantime, agreeable to my orders, Captain Cochran, commanding company, six months' volunteers, Enrolled Missouri Militia, marched from Dallas with fifty men of his company to Poplar Bluff, with instructions to report to Major Robbins at that place. Captain Cochran on his arrival at the bluff communicated with Major Robbins at Indian Ford on the Saint Francis River. Finding Major Robbins unable to cross his command, I ordered Captain Cochran to return to Dallas at his leisure, thoroughly scouting the country as he went. He then marched to the Ash Mills, finding six guerrillas, killing 4 of the number, 2 escaping. He captured their horses and arms. He

took prisoner one conscript, who, attempting to escape, was shot by the guard. He also routed other bands of guerrillas, killing 2 and capturing their horses; thence returned to Dallas, having killed in all 7 guerrillas, captured 12 horses, 2 Enfield rifles and 8 common rifles. The whole expedition thus resulting in the killing of 15 guerrillas, capturing 1, and 32 horses, several stand of arms, and routing several bands of robbers.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

J. B. ROGERS,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS EWING, Jr.,
Commanding Saint Louis District, Saint Louis, Mo.

DECEMBER 21, 1864–JANUARY 5, 1865.—Expedition from Memphis, Tenn., to destroy the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, with engagements at Verona, Miss. (25th), and at Egypt, Miss. (28th).

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Edward R. S. Canby, U. S. Army, commanding Military Division of West Mississippi.

No. 2.—Maj. Gen. Napoleon J. T. Dana, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Mississippi.

No. 3.—Maj. Gen. Cadwallader C. Washburn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Vicksburg.

No. 4.—Brig. Gen. Benjamin H. Grierson, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, Department of Mississippi.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Edward R. S. Canby, U. S. Army, commanding Military Division of West Mississippi.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF WEST MISSISSIPPI,
New Orleans, La., January 8, 1865.

GENERAL: General Grierson arrived with his command to a place within a few miles from Vicksburg on the evening of the 4th. The expedition has been perfectly successful. The following are the particulars received: About 100 miles of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad have been destroyed, together with nine locomotives, &c. Eight hundred prisoners captured, with nearly horses enough to mount them all.

E. R. S. CANBY,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff of the Army, Washington, D. C.

No. 2.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Napoleon J. T. Dana, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Mississippi.

MEMPHIS, TENN., *January 3, 1865.*

GENERAL: I have information from the expedition sent by me against the Mobile and Ohio Railroad as late as December 27. On that day it

was four miles below Okolona, having destroyed the road from Booneville to that point. The camp of Forrest's dismounted men at Verona was surprised on Christmas night and dispersed. Six commissioned officers and 20 men were captured. Three hundred army wagons, 4,000 new carbines, two trains of 32 cars, and very large amounts of ammunition, commissary and quartermaster stores destroyed. Twenty-nine bridges, large quantities of trestle-work, and many miles of track thoroughly destroyed. Not a man lost up to that time, and the expedition progressing in fine spirits. The enemy reported concentrating in their front.

N. J. T. DANA,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Memphis, Tenn., January 8, 1865.

I have the gratifying opportunity of reporting the result of another very successful expedition to the major-general commanding.

The cavalry expedition sent by me from this point against the Mobile and Ohio Railroad has reached Vicksburg in safety and in good condition, with about 550 prisoners, 1,000 negroes, and 800 horses and mules. General Grierson has just arrived here and his force will follow as fast as transportation can be procured. When his brigade commanders arrive and I receive his report I will forward it to you. Meanwhile I give you the following outline of the work done:

The expedition left here on the 21st December in wretched weather, about 3,300 strong, and moved directly east, threatening Corinth. Detachments were sent out which cut the telegraph from Grand Junction to Corinth, and also cut it and destroyed four bridges between Booneville and Guntown on the Mobile and Ohio road. The main column then moved rapidly on Tupelo, and on Christmas night surprised, captured, and dispersed Forrest's dismounted camp at Verona. Here they captured 6 officers and 20 men, destroyed two trains of sixteen cars, each loaded with new wagons, pontoons, supplies, &c., for Hood; burned 300 army wagons, most of which had been captured from Sturgis; destroyed 4,000 new English carbines, which were for Forrest's command, and large amounts of ordnance stores and ammunition, with quartermaster stores, and commissary stores for Hood's army. From Verona the command moved south along the line of the road, destroying it thoroughly to a point between Egypt and Prairie Stations.

At Okolona telegrams were taken from the wires from Lieutenant-General Taylor and Major-General Gardner, ordering Egypt to be held at all hazards, and promising re-enforcements from Mobile and other points. On the morning of the 28th the enemy was attacked at Egypt. General Grierson reports them about 1,200 strong with infantry, cavalry, and four guns on platform cars. Two trains, loaded with infantry, under Gardner, were in sight when the attack was made. A force was thrown between them and the garrison, and Gardner had the mortification to see his friends dispersed after a fight of two hours and the stockade carried by assault, and its defenders, to the number of about 500, captured. The rebel Brigadier Gholson was among the killed. Another train of 14 cars was destroyed here. The command was now

encumbered with so many prisoners and animals that, with the hostile force in front, it was useless to think longer of going to Cahawba. Accordingly the column turned west and southwest, through Houston and Bellefontaine, to the Mississippi Central Railroad, striking it at Winona. A detachment was sent to Bankston, which destroyed the large and valuable factories which worked 500 hands to supply the rebel army with cloth, clothing, and shoes; large quantities of wool, cloth, and leather were destroyed. A detachment was sent to Grenada, which destroyed the new machine shops and all public property in the place. A brigade was sent south from Grenada, under Colonel Osband, which destroyed the road and telegraph for thirty-five miles, and then met a brigade of the enemy under Wirt Adams, at Franklin, charged and drove them from the field, leaving 25 of their dead on the ground. The troops arrived at Vicksburg on the 5th of January. About forty miles on each road is destroyed, including a large number of bridges, telegraph depots, switches, turn-tables, and water-tanks, 4 serviceable locomotives, and 10 which were undergoing repairs, about 100 cars, a pile-driver and engine, 700 fat hogs, very large amounts of corn and wheat, and 1,000 stand of new arms at Egypt, in addition to the 4,000 destroyed at Verona. I believe this expedition, in its damaging results to the enemy, is second in importance to none during the war. So soon as the cavalry is sufficiently recruited, I will execute the orders I have received from you relative to Madison and Carroll Parishes, La. I shall immediately dispatch Winslow's command to Louisville according to former orders, but as Hood and Forrest are both reported at Corinth, and will be compelled to do something for relief, it really appears to me that force is required here rather than north of the Tennessee.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully,

N. J. T. DANA,
Major-General.

Lieut. Col. C. T. CHRISTENSEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Military Division of West Mississippi.

No. 3.

Report of Maj. Gen. Cadwallader C. Washburn U. S. Army, commanding District of Vicksburg.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF VICKSBURG,
Vicksburg, Miss., January 5, 1865.

GENERAL: The cavalry expedition under Brigadier-General Grierson sent out from Memphis about the 20th ultimo arrived here in good order to-day. The expedition has been a complete success. They struck the Mobile and Ohio railroad, between Boonville and Guntown, and passed down the line of the road, destroying it as they went, as far south as Egypt Station. At this last place they captured over 500 prisoners, and mortally wounded Brigadier-General Gholson. They captured and destroyed 300 army wagons, 4,000 new carbines, an immense amount of ammunition, two trains of cars, and a large amount of commissary and quartermaster's stores. Leaving the Mobile and Ohio road at Egypt, the command swept across the State, striking the Mississippi Central Railroad below Grenada, and destroying it for about thirty miles. At Grenada a number of locomotives and a large number of cars; at Bankston cloth and shoe factories, employing over 500

hands, were destroyed. The whole affair has been most successful, and reflects great credit on Brigadier-General Grierson for the skill and dash with which it was executed.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

C. C. WASHBURN,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. E. R. S. CANBY,
Commanding Military Division of West Mississippi.

No. 4.

Brig. Gen. Benjamin H. Grierson, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, Department of Mississippi.

HDQRS. CAV. DIV., DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Memphis, Tenn., January 9, 1865.

SIR: I have just returned from an important and highly successful expedition against the lines of the enemy's communications and his stores in Mississippi. The task was accomplished by a command which was inferior, both in organization and numbers, consisting, in a great part, of detachments of regiments which were heretofore under my command, but the greater portion of which were recently transferred to Middle Tennessee. I beg leave to state that a few months since I was in command of a division of fifteen regiments of cavalry, which I had succeeded after much labor in organizing and equipping in a manner second to no body of cavalry in the U. S. service, as will be seen by reference to the reports of the inspector-general, District of West Tennessee. One by one these regiments have been taken from my command and transferred to other officers in Middle Tennessee, Arkansas, and Missouri, until but a mere shadow of my former splendid command remains. With this I have attempted and succeeded in a hazardous expedition at a period when roads and streams were considered almost impassable. I further take the liberty of expressing my belief that the emergencies in Middle Tennessee, Arkansas, and Missouri have ceased, and as from the most reliable and recent reports the army of General Hood has fallen back and concentrated near Corinth, I believe Memphis, or some other point on the Mississippi River, to be favorable for the concentration of cavalry in order to operate successfully against the enemy's lines of communication in the West, the river being a much more efficient agent than railroads for the transportation of forage and other supplies necessary for the successful management of cavalry.

I respectfully and earnestly request that I be allowed to select from my old command ten or twelve regiments of cavalry, to be organized into a division and concentrated at Memphis, or any other point the Department may think best, with a view of operating in battle against the enemy, or in raids against his railroads, depots, and arsenals. The regiments which I would select are as follows: Sixth, Seventh, and Ninth Illinois; Second, Third, and Fourth Iowa; Tenth Missouri, Seventh Kansas; Third Michigan, and any others which might be assigned to me. With most of these regiments I have been identified as commander for the past eighteen months. With them, properly organized and equipped, I would be willing to undertake the destruction of every railroad and arsenal and depot of supplies in possession of the enemy.

Trusting that my past and future record may justify the Department in considering favorably this request, I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. H. GRIERSON,
Brigadier-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY,
Washington, D. C.

DECEMBER 23–24, 1864.—Expedition from Baton Rouge to Clinton, La.

Report of Maj. John H. Clybourn, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT CAVALRY DIVISION,
Baton Rouge, December 25, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of my expedition across the Amite River:

Left Baton Rouge, La., on the 23d instant at 2 p. m. with two commissioned officers and 100 men; marched out on Clay Gert road to Harrell's Ford on Amite River, sixteen miles from Baton Rouge; found the river too high to ford or swim. Commenced crossing my command on a dugout found on this river. Could only cross two horses at a time, and when about one-half of my command were ferried across, the bottom was accidentally knocked out by one of the horses. I then marched my command up both sides of the Amite River and formed a junction at Benton Ford six miles from Harrell's Ford. We found the river too high to ford and it was impossible for me to swim the balance of my command across. I then sent back the part of the command that was on this side of the river to Baton Rouge. I then marched the balance on the other side the Amite to Burlington Ferry, sixteen miles from Benton Ford and six miles from Williams' Bridge; met a part of the rebel Col. Bob Hunter's command between Benton Ford and Burlington Ferry; captured 4 prisoners; arrived at Burlington Ferry at 4 p. m. on the 24th instant. Found a large ferry-boat that could cross ten horses at a time. Crossed my command and marched to Bogan's Ford on the Comite River, nine miles from Burlington Ferry. Ran across a gang of jayhawkers, under command of Capt. Bob Hooper, between Bogan's Ford and Burlington Ferry, charged them and captured 4 of them; arrived at Bogan's Ford at 3 p. m. 24th instant, swam my command across the Comite River, and marched to Baton Rouge. Learning from a negro that the rebel Lieutenant Brannan and Lieutenant Brown were at the house of Mr. Granville Pierce, on Greenville Springs road, I charged up with a party of ten men and surrounded the place, capturing Lieutenant Brannan's orderly and the lieutenant's horse and equipments, also Lieutenant Brown's horse and equipments, but could find nothing of the rebel officers. I am certain they were hid away in the house. Lieutenant Brannan is chief of all the rebel scouts in this district. Marched a distance of seventy miles, captured 12 prisoners and killed 1 bushwhacker, captured 12 horses and 2 mules without the loss of a man. Sergt. George Rork, Eleventh New York Cavalry, was shot by a jayhawker through the hand. Sergeant Rork killed the jayhawker after he had shot him through the hand. Lieut. Philip Dougherty, of Earl's command, deserves great praise for the service he rendered. His conduct was very brave and gallant. I did not learn of any large force being this side of Clinton, La. It was re-

ported that the rebel Colonel Scott had returned to Clinton with his command. Arrived back at Baton Rouge at 6 p. m. 24th instant.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN H. CLYBOURN,
Major, Commanding.

Brigadier-General BENTON,
Comdg. District of Baton Rouge and Port Hudson.

DECEMBER 24–25, 1864.—Scout from Pine Bluff to Richland, Ark., with skirmish (24th) near Richland.

Report of Lieut. Thomas Stevenson, Fifth Kansas Cavalry.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *December 25, 1864.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I took command of the escort to beef contractor as per your order, and started from post commissary at 5 a. m. 24th. The escort consisted of nineteen men from Fifth Kansas Cavalry and twenty men from Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry. Proceeded by the river road to the bayou at Doctor Waters' plantation and found it too deep to ford. Constructing a temporary floating bridge, crossed the bayou and drove the enemy's pickets from Richland. At the distance of nearly one mile below Richland we saw a column of the enemy (about 100 men) moving down the river. On seeing us they halted. I returned and recrossed the bayou with the intention of getting what cattle we could on this side. Halting a few minutes at Doctor Waters' to feed, drove a few head of cattle from the vicinity of Doctor Waters'. Near Mrs. Atkins' the advance guard was fired on by a party of the enemy posted in a gin-house and behind some fallen timber. We returned the fire and soon drove the enemy across a narrow field to the timber beyond, capturing 1 prisoner belonging to the Twenty-first Texas Cavalry. Fearing they would throw a force above the bridge at Mrs. Atkins' to cut us off from town, I moved up above the bridge. The enemy did not pursue us farther. I reached camp at 6 p. m. Our loss was 1 man killed, Private Thomas King, Company B, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry.

THOS STEVENSON,
Second Lieut., Fifth Kansas Cavalry, Comdg. Escort.

Lieut. S. MONTE CAMBERN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

DECEMBER 26, 1864–JANUARY 1, 1865.—Expedition against Indians in Central Arizona, with skirmish (January 1) at Sycamore Springs, Ariz. Ter.

Report of Lieut. Samuel L. Barr, Fifth U. S. Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTHERN ARIZONA,
Fort Whipple, Ariz. Ter., January 1, 1865.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Department of New Mexico, Santa Fé, N. Mex.:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inclose herewith the report of First Lieut. Samuel L. Barr, Fifth U. S. Infantry, of a scout after Indians.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. ANDERSON,
Captain, Fifth U. S. Infantry, Commanding Post.

[Inclosure.]

Report of scout against Apache Indians, Company F, Fifth U. S. Infantry, and detachment of First New Mexico Cavalry Volunteers, commanded by First Lieut. Samuel L. Barr, Fifth U. S. Infantry, from Fort Whipple, Ariz. Ter., pursuant to Special Orders, No. 68, December 25, 1864:

December 26, 11 o'clock, left Fort Whipple, Ariz. Ter.; camped at Bed Rock; distance, six miles. Wood, water, and grass in abundance. Fine day. Roads muddy; 1.30 o'clock.

December 27, 7.30 o'clock, traveled twelve miles on Woolsey's road. Camped in a dry creek. Wood scarce. Plenty of snow on the banks. Grass good. Fine day. Weather moderate. Road very muddy; 12 o'clock.

December 28, 7 o'clock, left the road at Woolsey's ranch; took an old Indian trail directly east of the ranch and considerably to the right of Chaves Cut-Off. Crossed the mountains; followed the trail on until we struck the Agua Fria. Here we camped by some cottonwoods; distance, thirteen miles. Wood, water, and grass in abundance; 12 o'clock. No signs of Indians.

December 29, 7 o'clock, continued on the trail along the same stream. Camped near a very high bluff on the right of the trail. This peak, as near as I can judge, is from 150 to 200 feet high; quite easy to ascend from either the west or north sides. Upon the highest point of this peak I found where there had been many years ago quite a large fortification. Evidently quite a number have inhabited this place. The walls are built of rock, and some of them are in still good order; others have been torn down, perhaps by Indians. From the top of this you can see for hundreds of miles around. I named this Aztec Peak. Distance, twelve miles. Wood, water, and grass in abundance. No signs. Weather still fine; 12 o'clock.

December 30, 6.45 o'clock, left the Agua Fria to our right. Continued upon trail until it became so dim that we were unable to keep it any longer. Traveled considerably south of east over rolling prairie. Sent out a few men in advance to look out for signs; 8 o'clock reported Indian signs some two days old. Followed them down a dry creek for about three miles, where they then struck off to the left and in the direction of the San Francisco River. Having no one along that was at all acquainted with the country, I concluded it was best (as our mules were very tired and thirsty) to go on a few miles farther down this creek to find water; 10 o'clock we first struck the cattle tracks, together with two mule tracks. Followed upon their trail until we struck a place under a high bluff of rocks, where they have made a camp and roasted a mule. The creek runs about fifty yards from the point of these rocks and to the west. They left nothing of the mule but the hoofs. Their trail then took a straight course toward the head of Ash Creek. The country from there being so open I concluded I would keep down in this creek until I found water. Six miles from the point of rocks I struck a large grove of cotton woods and camped. Wood, water, and grass in abundance. In many places the grass was very green; the buds on the trees were also swelling. Distance, fifteen miles; 12 o'clock. Weather uncomfortably warm.

December 31, 3 p. m., traveled in a northeast direction. Crossed down in quite a large cañon, through which a stream had once flowed, called by the guide as Willow Creek. Followed up this for about three

miles, then took across in a southeast direction until we came to a fine stream of water, distance four miles, and at this water we found where the Indians had crossed the cattle. 9 o'clock, stopped for lunch. 11 o'clock, packed up. Directly south of east from this water, down in a very deep ravine, we found five wigwams. At this place they had killed the other mule and butchered a steer. Plenty of water in this ravine. We kept upon their trail, which took across the stream and went along under the edge of a hill for about one mile up the stream, then turned sharp to the right and took up over the hill and traveled due south until we struck another small stream. We traveled up this stream for about four miles until we came to where they had crossed. The tracks were about three days old. Camped at this stream. Wood, water, and grass in abundance. 4 o'clock, distance, twenty-one miles; weather warm.

January 1, 7.30 o'clock: 10 o'clock halted at some springs which I called Sycamore Springs, twelve miles from last camp. Wood, water, and grass in abundance. 12 o'clock, surprised an Indian camp; killed 4 and recaptured 2 steers, but 1 of the Indians escaped. We would have gotten more had not my guide been mistaken in the smoke. When he first saw it he was under the impression that the smoke came from the top of the hill and that the Indians had seen him and were signaling. Thinking everything was lost, and that perhaps he might get a shot at the Indian making the smoke, he made a rush to the place where he thought the smoke was coming from, and in doing so, a squaw who was on the hills saw him and gave the alarm in their camp. They made a desperate effort to get away, but we were too close upon them. When we came upon them they were evidently making great preparations for a large feast. They had just butchered a fine steer and had just started a mescal pit, which caused so much smoke. After destroying everything they had, took off directly east from there toward a large cañon. Camped 2 o'clock: wood, water, and grass in abundance. The next day we marched six miles, direction north, to Sycamore Creek; camped: found wood, water, and grass. A few miles up this creek we found (in a cañon some 200 feet deep and about 100 feet from top to top) a large cave some thirty or forty feet deep. At this place they had killed three steers. The third they killed, from all appearances, the night before. Something frightened them and they left almost all of it behind. No doubt but that the Indian that escaped the day before gave them the alarm. This place has evidently been a great haunt for the Indians. I am under the impression that if about in two months from this time a party is sent out in that direction they may be able to find them back there. Through the whole country that I passed over on this scout I have never seen anything to equal it as far as grazing is concerned. Well watered, and I'll venture to say almost all the year round. The country is so much cut up, and being so many hiding-places that it will take at least four companies (divided up in parties of twenty men each) to subdue these Indians. It could be arranged in such a manner that the Indians would have no rest, and in six months I will venture to say that they would sue for peace. These are merely suggestions. As it is almost impossible to scout in this section of country at present without proper guides, I would respectfully recommend for your consideration Messrs. Cooler, Rice, and Often. These are reliable, energetic men and take apparent great interest in assisting in all their power to drive these thieving Indians from a country like this, which is so immensely rich in almost every mineral.

I would also suggest, in order to facilitate matters more, that the pack-covers be painted a dark brown color. They would attract less attention and could be seen from a much less distance than the white.

SAML. L. BARR,
First Lieutenant, Fifth U. S. Infantry, Commanding Scout.

DECEMBER 30, 1864.—Skirmish near Caruthersville, Mo.

Report of Col. John B. Rogers, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., *December 31, 1864.*

GENERAL: A party of guerrillas made their appearance some fifteen miles below Caruthersville. They were pursued by a detachment from that place, and 1, named Potter, was killed, 2 horses captured. More would have been killed, but the noise made by horses on frozen ground gave them notice, and they fled.

J. B. ROGERS,
Colonel, Commanding.

General EWING.

ALTERNATE DESIGNATIONS

OF

ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS VOLUME.*

Adair's (William P.) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Cherokee.*

Adams' Company. (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Adams.*

Adams' (C. Powell) **Cavalry.** See *Edwin A. C. Hatch's Cavalry, post.*

Adams' (R. H.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 12th Regiment* (*Shanks'*).

Adamson's (Charles) **Cavalry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 2d Regiment.*

Allen's (John D.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 7th Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*

Allen's (W. Irving) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 31st Regiment.*

Anderson's (William L.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*

Anthony's (Scott J.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Ayers' (William) **Infantry.** See *New Mexico Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Baber's (Milton D.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 45th Regiment.*

Bailey's (John C.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*

Baldwin's (Horace W.) **Cavalry.**† See *Colorado Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Ballew's (William B.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 7th Regiment, State Militia.*

Bancroft's (Asa R.) **Infantry.** See *Kansas Troops, 17th Regiment.*

Bancroft's (Edwin) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment, Battery E.*

Barker's (Edgar A.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 2d Regiment.*

Barkley's (Frank) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, State Militia.*

Barnett's (Timothy) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Creek.*

Bechand's (Adolph) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 13th Regiment.*

Beckman's (Edward) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 11th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*

Behlendorff's (Frederick) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 13th Regiment.*

Bell's (James M.) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Cherokee.*

Benecke's (Louis) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 35th Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*

Benton's (Thomas O.) **Artillery.** See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*

Berney's (Joseph) **Cavalry.** See *New Mexico Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Beveridge's (John L.) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 17th Regiment.*

Bishop's (Albert W.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*

Black's (Thomas G.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*

Blackwell's (Y. H.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment* (*Gordon's*).

Blair's (William D.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 4th Regiment, State Militia.*

Blocher's (William D.) **Artillery.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*

Bolin's Guerrillas. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Bolin.*

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*References, unless otherwise indicated, are to index following.

† Temporarily commanding.

Boone's (R. M.) **Artillery.** See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*
Booth's (Henry) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Booth's (William) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Border Cavalry (Bourland's). See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Bourbon County Militia. See *Kansas Troops.*
Bourland's (James) **Cavalry.** See *Border Cavalry, ante.*
Boutell's (Lewis H.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 45th Regiment.*
Bowen's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Bowen.*
Bowen's (Leavitt L.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Brackett's (Alfred B.) **Cavalry.** See *Minnesota Troops.*
Briscoe's Company. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Briscoe.*
Brown's (Buck) **Command.** (Official designation not of record.) See *Buck Brown.*
Brown's (Henry B.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 5th Regiment, State Militia.*
Brown's (Napoleon B.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 33d Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Brown's (Sayles) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Battalion, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*
Bruce's (James H.) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, Home Guards.*
Brumfield's (William) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 33d Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Bucksath's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 35th Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*
Burbridge's (John Q.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Burch's (Milton) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment, State Militia.*
Burnet's (James) **Sharpshooters.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion.*
Butler's (James G.) **Cavalry.** See *Michigan Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Bywater's (R. H.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 82d Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Calkins' (Elias A.) **Cavalry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Cameron's (Duncan) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment* (*Veteran*).
Cameron's (Hugh) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
Camp's (George A.) **Infantry.** See *Minnesota Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Campbell's (William J.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Cantrell's (D. W.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 34th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Carlton's (Charles H.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
Carmichael's (Eagleton) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Carpenter's (Robert) **Cavalry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Carroll County Militia, Infantry. See *Missouri Troops, Union, 65th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Carroll's (Joseph A.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 29th Regiment.*
Carson's (N.) **Cavalry.** See *Border Cavalry* (*Bourland's*), *ante.*
Cassairt's (Jacob) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment, State Militia.*
Catherwood's (Edwin C.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 13th Regiment;* also *6th Regiment State Militia.*
Chapin's (Charles H.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 3d Regiment.*
Chapman's (Augustus H.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 54th Regiment.*
Chappel's (Harmon T.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment, Battery E.*
Charveaux's (Ferdinand) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 5th Regiment, State Militia.*
Chekote's (Samuel) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Creek.*
Chicago Artillery. See *Illinois Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
Chitwood's (Richard G.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment, State Militia.*

Chrysler's (Morgan H.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment* (*Veteran*).
Claflin's (Nelson H.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Clark's (John M.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 82d Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Clark's (William B.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Cloud's (William F.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Clowney's (John) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 30th Regiment.*
Clybourn's (John H.) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Coates' Company. (Official designation not of record). See ——— *Coates.*
Cochran's (John R.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, Enrolled Militia.*
Coffee's (John T.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*
Colbert's (J.) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Chickasaw.*
Coleman's (W. O.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 46th Regiment.*
Colley's (Patten) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 51st Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*
Collins' Band. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Collins.*
Collins' (Richard A.) **Artillery.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*
Colton's (Gustavus A.) **Infantry.** See *Kansas Troops, 5th Regiment, Militia.*
Conly's (John A.) **Regiment.** (Official designation not of record.) See *John A. Conly.*
Connor's (Jacob D.) **Artillery.** See *Richard A. Collins' Artillery, ante.*
Cook's (A. V.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
Cornay's (Florian O.) **Artillery.** See *Saint Mary's Cannoneers, post.*
Cosgrove's (Patrick) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Cox's (Jacob B.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 81st Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*
Cox's (Samuel P.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 33d Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Crabtree's (J. W.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 46th Regiment.*
Craigue's (Nelson F.) **Cavalry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Cram's (De Witt C.) **Cavalry.** See *Iowa Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Cramer's (Joseph A.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Crandall's (Eli J.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 62d Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Crandall's (Lee) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 47th Regiment.*
Crawford's Company. (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Crawford.*
Crawford's (John D.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 40th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Crawford's (William A.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
Cree's (Theodore G.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Crescent Infantry. See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*
Crittenden's (Thomas T.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 7th Regiment, State Militia.*
Curran's (Sterrit M.) **Cavalry.** See *Nebraska Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Curtis' (Orren A.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Curtis' (Samuel S.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Dale's (Douglas) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 4th Regiment, State Militia.*
Darnelle's Guerrillas. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Darnelle.*
David's (James B.) **Cavalry.** See *Iowa Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Davies' (J. F.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*
Daviess County Militia. See *Missouri Troops, Union, 33d Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Davis' (Berryman K.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 43d Regiment.*
Davis' (Gurnsey W.) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Davis' (James H.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 81st Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*
Davis' (Nicholas S.) **Infantry.** See *California Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Deagle's (George) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 65th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*

Dee's (Edward W.) **Cavalry.** See *Iowa Troops, 4th Regiment.*

De Morse's (Charles) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 29th Regiment.*

Desha's (John) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 4th Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*

Deus' (Charles) **Cavalry.** See *New Mexico Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Dill's (Daniel J.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 30th Regiment.*

Dinger's (Franz) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 47th Regiment.*

Dobbin's (Archibald S.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*

Dodd's Scouts. (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Dodd.*

Dodge's (James H.) **Artillery.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 9th Battery.*

Downs' (O. J.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*

Doyal's (H. R.) **Cavalry.** (Official designation not of record.) See *H. R. Doyal.*

Drake's (Samuel A.) **Infantry.** See *Kansas Troops, 17th Regiment.*

Draper's (Daniel M.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 9th Regiment, State Militia.*

Dunn's (Clark) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Dunn's (Julius) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 46th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*

Dyer's (David P.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 49th Regiment.*

Eayre's (George S.) **Artillery.** See *William D. McLain's Artillery, post.*

Edmiston's (Robert) **Infantry.** See *California Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Edwards' (James W.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, State Militia.*

Edy's (G. W.) **Militia.** (Official designation not of record.) See *G. W. Edy.*

Eitzen's (Charles D.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 34th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*

Elliott's (Benjamin) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*

Elliott's (Thomas M.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 63d Regiment.*

Ellsworth's (Allen) **Cavalry.** See *Iowa Troops, 7th Regiment.*

Elmer's (Edward P.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 2d Regiment.*

Eppstein's (Joseph A.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 5th Regiment, State Militia.*

Erwin's (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 12th Regiment (Shanks').*

Evans' (William J.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 118th Regiment.*

Evens' (Isaac F.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 2d Regiment.*

Eves' (George P.) **Infantry.** See *Bourbon County Militia, ante.*

Fenn's (William P.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Enrolled Militia,*

Folsom's (Simpson N.) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Choctaw.*

Forbes' (William) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 43d Regiment.*

Ford's (Barney) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*

Ford's (James H.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 2d Regiment.*

Foreman's (John A.) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Union, 3d Regiment, Home Guards.*

Foss' Regiment. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Foss.*

Foster's (Melville U.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 7th Regiment, State Militia.*

Fowkes' (William E.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 70th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*

Franc's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Franc.*

Freeman's (Thomas R.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*

Frink's (Edwin B.) **Infantry.** See *California Troops, 5th Regiment.*

Fristoe's (Edward T.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*

Fritz's (Emil) **Cavalry.** See *California Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Fry's (John T. S.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 40th Regiment.*
Fuchs' (F. William) **Artillery.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, Battery C.*
Fuller's (Irving W.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Gale's (Daniel Q.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 51th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Galligan's (John) **Cavalry.** See *Iowa Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Gandolfo's (John B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 178th Regiment.*
Gano Guards, Cavalry. See *William G. Welch's Cavalry, post.*
Garth's (Samuel A.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 9th Regiment, State Militia.*
Gasconade County Militia, Infantry. See *Missouri Troops, Union, 34th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Gibson's (William E.) **Artillery.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Gillette's (Lee P.) **Cavalry.** See *Nebraska Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Glass' Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Glass.*
Gonzales' (Joseph) **Cavalry.** See *Confederate Troops, Regulars, 14th Regiment.*
Gordon's (Anderson) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Gordon's (B. Frank) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
Gordon's (William) **Infantry.*** See *Kansas Troops, 14th Regiment, Militia.*
Gorham's (Samuel A.) **Cavalry.** See *California Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Goss' (Benjamin F.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Goss' (Henry F.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 87th Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*
Gould's (Nicholas C.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 23d Regiment.*
Gove's (Greenville L.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Gravely's (Joseph J.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment, State Militia.*
Green's (William I.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 4th Regiment.*
Greene's (Colton) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Greene's (Henry A.) **Infantry.** See *California Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Greene's (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Greeno's (Harris S.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 4th Regiment.*
Gregg's (W. H.) **Band.** (Official designation not of record.) See *W. H. Gregg.*
Grimes' (John) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 51st Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*
Grover's (George S.) **Volunteers.** (Official designation not of record.) See *George S. Grover.*
Gunter's (Thomas M.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
Gurley's (Edward J.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*
Gurney's (Asa L.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment (Veteran).*
Hackett's (Ephraim L.) **Artillery.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 1st Battery.*
Haden's (Porter) **Cavalry.** See *California Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Hamilton's (David) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Haney's (J. H.) **Engineers.** See *Confederate Troops, Regulars, 1st Battalion.*
Hardeman's (William P.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 31st Regiment.*
Harding's (Chester, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 43d Regiment.*
Hardy's (David L.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Harmon's (Henry W.) **Cavalry.** See *Iowa Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Harrell's (John M.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
Harris' (David M.) **Artillery.** See *Richard A. Collins' Artillery, ante.*
Harris' (S. S.) **Artillery.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*
Harrison's (M. La Rue) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Harrover's (Benjamin F.) **Infantry.** See *California Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Hatch's (Edwin A. C.) **Cavalry.** See *Minnesota Troops.*

* Temporarily commanding.

Hawley's (William) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment.*
Haynes' (D. C.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment, Partisan.*
Head's (J. W.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Headlee's (Samuel W.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 6th Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*
Heath's (Sullivan) **Cavalry.** See *California Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Hebard's (William) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Henslee's (Murline C.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 7th Regiment, State Militia.*
Hildebrand's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 10th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*
Hill's (Adam W.) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Hill's (Edgar P.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Hill's (John F.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*
Hiller's (Hiram M.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, State Militia.*
Hilliard's (Hiram) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Hogan's (A. C.) **Infantry.** See *Kansas Troops, 19th Regiment, Militia.*
Hogane's (James T.) **Engineers.** (Official designation not of record.) See *James T. Hogane.*
Hopkins' (Henry) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Horn's (Elisha) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 7th Regiment, State Militia.*
House's (Albert E.) **Cavalry.** See *Iowa Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Houston's (George M.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
Howell's (Sylvanus) **Artillery.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Howk's (Richard A.) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Howland's (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment.*
Hoyt's (George H.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Hubble's (John B.) **Infantry.** See *Kansas Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Hudson's (Gilbert J.) **Cavalry.** See *Michigan Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Hudson's (Joseph K.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 62d Regiment.*
Hudson's (Richard) **Infantry.** See *California Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Hughes' (Eli) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 6th Regiment, State Militia.*
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